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Our Paper: Serving the Alternative Community

Periodicals

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10-1986

## Our Paper 10/1986

Our Paper

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### Recommended Citation

Our Paper, "Our Paper 10/1986" (1986). *Our Paper: Serving the Alternative Community*. 59.  
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# Our Paper

FREE

Vol. 4, No. 2

October, 1986

A  
VOICE  
FOR  
LESBIANS  
AND  
GAY MEN  
IN MAINE

## Police Respond to Violence

by Fred Berger

Incidents of harassment and violence near the Underground this summer have led to improved police protection in the vicinity of Portland's gay disco. Greater police cooperation resulted from a meeting between the Underground management and members of the police force following one incident in which police response was poor.

Harassment and vandalism have long been a problem outside of the disco, particularly during summer months. Randy Scott (formerly Randy Toothaker), owner of the Underground and Backstreet, reports that egg-throwing, name calling, and the vandalizing of cars began early in the summer.

This summer's most serious incident occurred one night in late August as patrons were leaving the bar at closing time. A carload of men drove by and yelled names at the crowd outside. Several people yelled back. The shouting match escalated into a brawl in which a gay man was injured. Although Jim Spencer, the bar's security person, called the police at the onset of the incident, they did not arrive until 20 minutes later when he had summoned an ambulance to take the injured man to the hospital.

According to Spencer, when the police officer arrived he was "very non-cooperative." "He just sat in his car," Spencer said. Some observers claimed that the officer "freaked at the sight of a gay man bleeding."

In another incident, an Underground bartender was assaulted by three men outside the bar at 3:00 a.m. In this case the police responded promptly and took a full report. Afterward Underground employees formed a "vigilante committee" and roamed Congress Street looking for the perpetrators.

Another problem was solved through individual action on the part of Randy Scott. Several times during the summer the driver and passengers of a tow truck bearing the name of a Congress Street garage were seen harassing Underground patrons. "I couldn't believe someone was so stupid as to have the name of the business on the side of the vehicle when you're harassing people," Randy commented. Randy called the owner of the garage and informed him of the harassment. The truck hasn't been seen since.

In an incident unrelated to the bar itself, an Underground employee was harassed to the point where he fled Port-

*continued on page 15*

## Arrest Likely in Assault on Women

By Brenda Buchanan

Three women were injured September 6 when a man who reportedly had been drinking at a bar next door to the Portland women's bar Entre Nous went on a violent rampage in a Spring Street parking lot.

Portland police plan to seek an arrest warrant for the man — whose name has not been released pending the actual arrest — charging him with multiple counts of assault.

Two of the women, Entre Nous owner Judy Nevers and disc jockey Jamie Scott, were injured severely enough to require medical treatment.

Scott had four teeth broken, her jaw fractured and her ribs bruised during the assault; Nevers suffered bruised ribs and an arm injury. A third woman, whose name was not available, suffered a black eye but did not seek medical treatment.

All of the women intend to press charges, Nevers said.

Det. Peter DeRice of the Portland Police Department said as soon as he receives sworn statements from the women, he will ask the Cumberland County District Attorney's office to issue a complaint and arrest warrant. He said he intends to seek a warrant rather than simply summoning the man to court because there were multiple assaults.

The man was not arrested at the scene because he and two friends drove off before police arrived. It was not difficult to track him down, however, because the

van in which they were riding had the name of an area business written on the side.

DeRice said the man already has been contacted by police and has admitted he was at the scene. His story is that the women assaulted him for an unknown reason, the detective said.

Nevers believes the man had been drinking next door at Fairwinds, a bar at the corner of Spring and High Streets, before the assault. She said patrons of that bar bother Entre Nous occasionally, but usually it is by coming to the door and asking to be allowed in.

DeRice acknowledged that police have had problems with Fairwinds customers in the past, and he characterized it as the type of place where some patrons "sit there talking about baseball and football and beating up the gays." He said the notion of harassing women who go to Entre Nous "is a sporting event for them," and added "that's just my opinion, but I'll bet I'm not far off."

According to Nevers, the assault occurred shortly after midnight. Two Entre Nous customers were leaving about 12:15 when they saw a van strike a car in the Spring Street parking lot that is across from the bar. They returned to Entre Nous to report the accident, because it appeared the van's driver was going to leave the scene.

When they went outside again, a man came out of Fairwinds, the bar that is next

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## Maine NOW and MLGPA Endorse Huber

by Elze

Both the Political Action Committee of Maine NOW (National Organization for Women) and the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance have endorsed Independent candidate for governor Sherry Huber among other political hopefuls.

At a press conference September 3, Christine Torraca of Maine NOW-PAC praised Huber for her long-standing support of abortion rights, civil rights for lesbians and gay men, the Equal Rights Amendment, environmental issues, and her understanding of economic justice concerns for women and the special needs of Maine's minorities.

Torraca believes the endorsement, NOW's first in a gubernatorial election, will have a significant impact on the polls in November. "There's a fair number of feminist women and men who, while they aren't lemmings blindly following whatever NOW says, give credibility to NOW's analysis," she told *Our Paper*. "They won't commit to a candidate until they've heard what NOW has to say and they'll incorporate NOW's position into their decision-making."

Torraca said the two major party candidates, Jim Tierney (D) and John McKernan (R), responded that they're as good on women's issues as Huber. Citing their lack of support for gay and lesbian rights, Medicaid funding for abortions, and a minor's access to abortion without parental consent or notification, Torraca said, "Those two boys are not as good as Huber on our issues. If they were, we wouldn't be making an endorsement."

In response to the *Portland Press Herald* editorial which accused NOW of making a gender-based decision, Torraca said, "That totally ignores our history. In

every election there are many women we don't endorse because they are not good on our issues, and we endorse a lot of men. That editorial was a bald-faced attempt at discrediting the endorsement."

For the first time in its three-year history, the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance has issued endorsements and statements of support for candidates, topping off its list with an enthusiastic and unanimous nod for Huber.

Approximately twenty-five MLGPA members convened in Augusta September 21 to act upon the recommendations of the group's Legislative Committee. The committee had sent out over 350 questionnaires, one to each gubernatorial, legislative, and congressional candidate, asking for responses to three questions: 1) Do you favor civil rights for gay people in Maine? What types of rights do you support or oppose? 2) Would you vote for an amendment to include the term "sexual orientation" in the Maine Human Rights Act? 3) Would you support funding for education, treatment and support services related to AIDS?

With the assistance of Maine NOW-PAC's extensive candidate analysis, MLGPA, in most cases, endorsed candidates who returned the survey with affirmative answers to all three questions. Some

*continued on page 7*

## Candidate Positions Inside





# Letters

Dear Community:

Thank you for supporting my producing endeavors at the Ova concert. Rosemary and Jana (the performers), Sue (the sound engineer), and Liz (the road manager) all had a great time in Portland and are anxious to return. I especially want to point out that Ruth and her staff at Amadeus Music, Fred at Our Books, and Sadhbh at New Leaf Books all gave freely of their time and energy to sell tickets for the concert. I applaud these members of our community who perform this often overlooked yet vital service for us all.

For anyone that wants an Ova T-shirt or tape and didn't get one, they left me a box of each of their four cassettes, two styles of T-shirts in a variety of colors, and some "Support Women's Music" shirts, so call me at 774-0786 if you want any of these items. Thanks again.

Nancy Foss

Dear "Our Paper,"


The article "Two Trains A-Runnin'" was excellent. It was well-written, well researched — and very "up beat." Fred's optimism is most refreshing — and enlightening.

Sign me,  
Proud to be Fred's Mom

## Maine Bisexual Network

Nine people met for a pot-luck the evening of September 13 in the Belfast area. The meeting resulted in the establishment of a mid-coast group which will be organizing regular activities in the Augusta-Belfast area. ■■■■■■

■■■■■■ There will be a pot-luck/discussion/dance party in the Portland area on October 12 and a pot-luck in the Belfast area on October 18. For more information contact Ginny LaCrow, 780-4083.



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# Commentary

## To Harass One of Us is to Harass Us All

By Brenda Buchanan

Ah, Provincetown. The summertime lesbian/gay mecca where no one blinks when you walk down the street holding hands with your honey. The town where you can immerse yourself in gay partytime culture for a weekend, sunning at the gay beach, eating at gay cafes staffed by gay waitrons, viewing gay-themed art at gay-owned galleries and dancing the night away at gay bars with a seabreeze.

It's nice to arrive in P-town, to reacquire oneself with the feeling that comes with being, if not among the majority, at least nearly so. It feels more than tolerant, Provincetown does. It feels accepting.

That sense disintegrated on an August Saturday when six arrests were made in the early morning hours outside the Commercial Street pizza parlor where many gay men and lesbians routinely stop for a slice on their way home from the bars. The arrests marked the first enforcement of an apparently new town policy about loitering in the street. No notice had been given of the intent to crack down.

The response of lesbian and gay town residents and vacationers was swift. A crowd of about 800 gathered to protest on Saturday night after the bars closed and since then, other positive actions have been taken, including a major lesbian/gay presence at the next selectmen's meeting.

Some more background: After the bars closed early on the morning of August 16, a good-sized crowd of mostly lesbians and gay men gathered outside Spiritus Pizza to snack and socialize. Before long, police arrived and began moving people out of the street. Six were arrested and charged with "obstructing traffic."

Some people said the arrests were made without warning. Others said stepped-up police presence led to taunting which led to arrests.

Some people said the arrests were clearly an attempt to harass lesbians and gay men. Others said they were an attempt by the police to address persistent complaints by residents of the block about late night noise and Commercial Street being impassable between 1 and 2 a.m. because so many people were loitering in the street.

The widespread perception was that the arrests were unnecessary, and that the Provincetown Police Department's homophobia was showing. Compounding that belief was the fact that there were a large number of queerbashing incidents during the summer, and police reportedly had not responded in a similarly forceful manner to those assaults.

I was in Provincetown on August 16, and when I heard there was likely to be a confrontation after the bars closed, I asked my companion if we could stick around. We headed over to Spiritus about 12:30 a.m., and watched from the sidewalk as the crowd gathered. Gay men and lesbians arrived in bunches, some from the bars, others from strategy sessions. They kept coming and kept coming, until the sides of the street were jammed with people for more than a block.

Everyone was talking about the previous night's events though it was difficult to find someone who had actually been there. The second- and third-hand nature of people's information meant the stories weren't consistent. One part of me wished that someone had put together an information sheet so skeptics could not say that most of those gathered didn't even know what the demonstration was about. Another side didn't care about the potential for such criticism, and was hoping the crowd would swell even larger, so we could show that we have solidarity even on short notice, however confused some of us might have been.

As the demonstration progressed, I realized there was more going on than a protest about six arrests. People were ready to stay all night, they were so angry, but not just to defend their right to be treated fairly outside a Commercial Street pizza parlor. The arrests represented the pushing-around of lesbians and gay men that happens all the time in our society, and that is why 800 people showed up.

"If they want another Stonewall, they'll get another Stonewall," I overheard one man say.

Emotional talk? Sure. But it wasn't necessarily cheap.

The lesbians and gay men who lined the sidewalks six deep were adding it all up in their heads. The arrests felt sneaky and mean-spirited and homophobic, and after the summer we've just survived, what with the Supreme Court's decision in the Hardwick case and the Justice Department's ruling that supports AIDS-phobia in the workplace and LaRouchites pushing for quarantine in California, they were infuriating.

That is why expressions of outrage echoed down Commercial Street early on the morning of August 17. That is why the turnout was so large. That is why when the State Police arrived to back up the locals, there was prolonged jeering from the agitated crowd.

As it turned out, the extra police protection wasn't needed. Despite the fact that many had come to the demonstration from a night of partying, there was none of the irresponsible behavior that alcohol consumption often fuels.

The energy at the demonstration — which was leaderless as far as I could tell — was positive and occasionally mischievous.

A group of lesbians who arrived armed with a collection of chants and songs initiated a game of Red Rover to point out the ludicrousness of the situation. Because the police were bent on keeping people out of the street itself, the huge crowd had confined itself to the sidewalks. The Red Rover lesbians, aware that simply crossing the street could not justify an arrest, got a good-sized group to play their game.

"Red Rover, Red Rover, send everyone with glasses right over," they'd yell, and a whole pile of bespeckled demonstrators would run across the street, waving their arms and laughing with devious glee.

The police, arms crossed across their chests, tried not to look annoyed.

Then some gay men encouraged what sounded like the entire crowd to chant: "We are one. We are one. We are one."

I hope the Provincetown police got that message. I hope that everyone else who perpetuates bigotry, violence and discrimination against minorities gets it too.

And we must keep demonstrating our unity to those who don't understand our campaign for fair treatment and personal safety. That will be at the root of our success.

That thought was clearest in my mind that night, as the sound of hundreds of voices chanting "We are one" challenged the nearby ocean to drown us out with its roar.

## VOTE!

### PURPOSE

OUR PAPER is published monthly by the OUR PAPER Collective, P.O. Box 10744, Portland, Maine 04104. The purpose of OUR PAPER is to serve as a voice for lesbians and gay men in Maine. We wish the newspaper to be a source of information, support and affirmation, and a vehicle for celebration, by and for members of the lesbian and gay men's communities. We want the paper to reflect our diversity as well.

### EDITORIAL POLICY

We will consider for publication any material that broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and of each other. Views and opinions appearing in the paper are those of the authors only.

We request that all material submitted be signed and include an address and/or phone number so we can contact the author if editorial revisions need to be considered. We reserve the right to edit unsigned material as necessary. Within the pages of the newspaper, articles can appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. No revisions or rejections of signed material will occur without dialogue with the author.

Even though our editorials are initiated, they represent the opinion of all collective members.

We welcome and encourage all our readers to submit material for publication and to share your comments, criticisms and positive feelings with us. Remember, OUR PAPER is Your Paper!!! Deadline for each issue is the 10th of the month.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are \$12 for one year (12 issues), \$20 for two years, and \$30 for three years. Make checks payable to "OUR PAPER". All submissions and correspondence should be sent to OUR PAPER, P.O. Box 10744, Portland, Maine 04104.

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	Barbara Wood



# Huber for Governor: One Activist's Opinion

by Christine Torraca

On November 4, we, the voters of Maine, will decide who will govern us for the next four years. After researching the four candidates, I have decided that the candidate who best represents me, a lesbian feminist activist, is Sherry Huber. I am now working to convince other, including you, readers of *Our Paper*, to support her as well.

We are faced with four individuals who have decided that they want to be governor of the state of Maine. They all basically represent variations on the theme of traditional American politics. It is up to us to decide who best represents our interests and then to do whatever we can to educate others as to the benefits of their voting for "our candidate."

In the middle of that deciding, we must also remember that it is unlikely that we would find a candidate who agrees with us totally, who would prioritize our issues the same way we would, who might pursue justice and equality with the same degree of intensity and devotion as we would, given the chance. But we must decide nonetheless, even given these shortcomings. *[Well, actually, we don't have to decide. I find myself more and more schizophrenic about electoral politics as I get older. You can choose not to decide, not to participate, in our rather corrupt system of small-d democratic electoral politics. And I would respect that choice. But just make sure it is a consciously chosen decision, not an outcome of laziness and not caring. We owe it to ourselves and our future to think seriously about what we are doing when it comes to these things. Anyway, back to business...]*

**"Sherry Huber is the only candidate who truly understands the plight faced by gay men and lesbians in Maine and cares enough to take a stand on the issue that shows that discrimination is wrong, no matter where it happens."**

The other candidates running for governor in 1986 are John Menario, Independent; John McKernan, Republican; and James Tierney, Democrat. I will run through two of the issues of most concern to feminists and gay activists comparing what I have learned of these candidates. Then I want to explain why I think the feminist vote and the "gay vote" (which overlap, I know) can be most important in this election.

## THE ISSUES

**Lesbian/Gay Rights:** The basic question to be asked here is the candidates' support for the traditional "gay rights bill" which is, in fact, an amendment to the Maine Human Rights Act to include protection for lesbians and gay men from discrimination in employment, housing, credit and public accommodations. The Human Rights Act currently prevents discrimination in those areas based on sex, age, religion, physical handicap, and other categories.

**Sherry Huber** strongly supports the gay rights bill and would do whatever she could from her position as governor to assist its passage through the Maine Legislature. She has made the commitment that, in the event the bill fails to pass (a realistic appraisal) she will institute an Executive Order banning discrimination against lesbians and gay men in state employment. **Menario** is opposed to the gay rights bill. **McKernan** is opposed to the gay rights bill. He told Maine NOW representatives two years ago that he opposed gay rights legislation in Congress because he didn't want a gay male teacher to be in the locker room with his teenaged son. **Tierney** also opposes the amendment to the Human Rights Act because he doesn't think government should be involved in mandating this non-discrimination in the private sector. I hope we can assume that he would not support repeal of the Maine Human Rights Act which is, of course, government getting involved in mandating non-discrimination against women and minorities in the private sector. Tierney has stated that although he opposes the gay rights

in Portland, a school in Madison or a bridge in Bangor.

**Abortion:** Feminist activists know that there are a number of issues that come under the umbrella of "abortion issues." These include, among others, support for the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion, support for the resumption of Medicaid funding for abortions for

young women out in the cold. It is not based on the traditional male-left "I'm personally opposed to abortion, but..." philosophy, but is rather a long felt *and demonstrated* commitment of public statements and actions supportive of a woman's right to choose an abortion. Huber has been affiliated for many years with Maine's Family Planning Association, which works long and hard to

**"Sherry Huber's commitment to the pro-choice position is a comprehensive commitment, not one which leaves poor women or young women out in the cold."**

poor women, and opposition to mandated parental consent or parental notification for minors seeking abortions. The issue of parental consent for minors is of extreme importance to abortion activists in Maine at this time. Maine Right-to-Life has announced its intention to secure enough signatures to put the question of parental consent on the ballot in 1987. Their attempt to secure such a law in the 1985 Maine State Legislature failed due to some fancy maneuvering by our side. I am confident that they will get the required number of signatures to force the issue. We will need all the help we can get to defeat the issue in a referendum effort.

With the exception of John Menario, all the candidates call themselves "pro-choice." **Menario** is opposed to abortion. The splitting out of issues helps us to see where the three "pro-choice" candidates really are different.

**Sherry Huber** is the only candidate whose "pro-choice" position brings her completely in line on the three sub-issues listed above. She unequivocally supports a woman's rights to choose an abortion, including the resumption of Medicaid funding for poor women. She firmly opposes parental consent for minors and has pledged to veto any such legislation that might pass the legislature. **Tierney** states his basic support for *Roe v. Wade*, but opposes the resumption of Medicaid funding for poor women, and supports parental consent for minors. **McKernan** also supports *Roe v. Wade* and has voted correctly in Congress on numerous occasions against amendments restricting abortion rights. However, McKernan appears to be backtracking from his stated position in favor of Medicaid funding for poor women. And, although he does not support parental consent, he has stated that he would not veto a "properly constructed" parental notification bill.

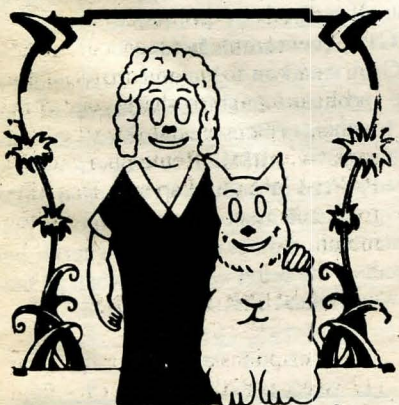
**Sherry Huber's** commitment to the pro-choice position is a comprehensive commitment, not one which leaves poor women or

prevent unwanted pregnancies through birth control education and the delivery of family planning services throughout the state.

## SO WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

For the last eight years, with Joseph Brennan as Governor, feminists and gay activists have had to struggle to get a foot in the door to the leadership of the state. Feminists have organized themselves very successfully over those years. Maine NOW and the Maine NOW Political Action Committee have grown to be a consistent and credible source of information and influence. The Maine Women's Lobby is a day-to-day reminder to the elected representatives in Augusta that we are here and we are watching how they vote. Feminists can point to the 1982 First District Congressional election between John Kerry (anti-abortion Democrat) and John McKernan (pro-choice Republican) as an example of their influence. While Maine NOW did not endorse either candidate, they (and other groups) did a lot of education about the compromises voters would have to make or the other. John McKernan won that race when over 5000 Democrats who voted on other races **did not vote** on that one, allowing McKernan to win. We have all seen the rise of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, and the general political consciousness raising of the gay and lesbian population in Maine after the murder of Charlie Howard. We have an opportunity to elect someone to Governor of Maine whose door will be open to us, and who is committed to influencing and executing policy at the state level that will further the cause of justice and equality in Maine. I believe that the "women's vote" and the "gay vote" could play a major role in the election of **Sherry Huber**. In order for us to make a difference we have to vote and we have to get our friends to vote as well.

I know that Sherry Huber is the best candidate for women in general and for lesbians and gay men in Maine. A vote for her is a vote for our future. **SHERRY HUBER FOR GOVERNOR!**



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# Election '86



## How to Find Your District

The Maine Legislature has 151 House districts and 35 Senate districts. We have listed candidates in our analysis according to their House and Senate district numbers.

For your convenience, and actually the only way to make any sense out of all of this, we have provided a list of all Maine towns with their House and Senate district numbers. The FIRST number (or number in the case of larger cities) is the SENATE DISTRICT; the SECOND number (or numbers) is the HOUSE DISTRICT. For example: BRUNSWICK.26..42/43/70 means that Brunswick has Senate district 26 and House districts 42,43 and 70.

If your town has more than one House or Senate district, you should call your Town Hall to determine in which district you reside.

Abbot.5..104	Brighton Plt.4..103	Danforth.3..139	Gouldsboro.12..125	Lakeview Plt.5..105	Newfield.25..48	Robbinston.7..139	Unity Twp.13..109
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Arrowsic.24..74	Cambridge.9..104	Durham.26..70	Hampden.9..113	Linneus.3..140	Otisfield.15..45	Sangerville.5..104	Warren.20..80
Arundel.34..8	Camden.21..83	Dyer Brook.3..140	Hancock.12..126	Lisbon.16..70/71	Owls Head.21..81	Scarborough.31..19/20	Washburn.2..147
Ashland.2..151	Canaan.9..101	Eagle Lake.2..151	Hanover.8..49	Litchfield.18..93	Oxbow.3..151	Searsmont.21..110	Washington.20..84
Athens.4..103	Canton.8..57	Eastbrook.12..128	Harmony.9..104	Littleton.3..141	Parsonsfield.25..48	Searsport.14..112	Waterboro.25..15
Atkinson.5..106	Cape Elizabeth.32..21	East Machias.7..136	Harpwell.24..76	Livermore.16..59	Passadumkeag.6..132	Sebago.25..46	Waterford.15..49
Auburn.22..59/61-63/70	Caratunk.4..103	E. Millinocket.5..134	Harrington.7..126	Livermore Fls.17..58	Patten.5..134	Sebec.5..106	Waterville.17..96-98
Augusta.19..88/89/90	Caribou.2..146/147	Easton.3..144	Harrison.15..46	Lovell.15..49	Pembroke.7..139	Seboeis Plt.5..134	Wayne.18..94
Aurora.12..128	Carmel.9..114	Eastport.7..137	Hartford.15..52	Lowell.6..132	Penobscot.14..123	Sedgwick.12..123	Webster Plt.6..133
Avon.8..49	Carroll Plt.6..132	Eddington.11..129	Hartland.9..101	Lubec.7..137	Perham.2..149	Shapleigh.25..9	Weld.8..49
Baileysville.7..138	Carthage.8..54	Edgecomb.20..77	Haynesville.3..139	Ludlow.3..140	Perkins Twp.24..74	Sherman.3..140	Wellington.5..104
Baldwin.25..47	Cary Plt.3..140	Edinburg.6..132	Hebron.15..51	Lyman.25..8	Perry.7..139	Shirley.5..104	Wells.35..4/6/7
Bancroft.3..139	Casco.25..45	Eliot.35..3	Hersey.3..140	Machias.7..136	Phillips.4..55	Sidney.17..87	Wesley.7..139
Bangor.10..115-119	Castine.14..123	Elliotville.5..104	Hibbert.20..84	Madawaska.1..149	Phippsburg.24..76	Skowhegan.13..99/100	West Bath.24..76
Bar Harbor.12..125	Castel Hill.2..151	Ellsworth.12..127	Highland Plt.4..103	Madison.4..102	Pittsford.13..101	Smithfield.4..99	Westbrook.28..33-35
Baring Plt.7..138	Caswell.1..148	Emden.4..55	Hiram.15..46	Madrid.4..55	Pittston.18..91	Smyrna.3..140	Westfield.3..142
Barnard Plt.5..105	Centerville.7..136	Enfield.6..132	Hodgdon.3..140	Magalloway Plt.8..49	Pittsford.18..91	Solon.4..103	West Forks Plt.4..103
Bath.24..74/75	Chapman.2..151	E Plt.3..142	Holden.11..121	Manchester.18..95	Passadumkeag.6..132	Somerville.20..84	West Gardiner.18..93
Beals.7..136	Charleston.6..105	Etna.9..108	Hollis.25..14/16	Mapleton.2..143/147	Patterson.7..139	Sorrento.12..126	Westmanland.2..149
Beaver Cove.5..104	Charlotte.7..139	Eustis.4..55	Hopkinton.12..128	Mariaville.12..128	Penikese.7..139	S. Berwick.33..4	Weston.3..139
Beddington.7..139	Chelsea.19..91	Exeter.6..114	Howland.6..105	Marshfield.7..137	Perkins Twp.24..74	S. Bristol.20..77	West Paris.15..51
Belfast.14..111	Cherryfield.7..126	Fairfield.13..99	Indian Twp.3..139	Mars Hill.3..144	Perry.7..139	Southport.20..77	Westport.20..77
Belgrade.17..58	Chester.5..134	Falmouth.27..39	Industry.4..55	Masardis.3..151	Peru.15..57	S. Portland.32..22-24	Whitefield.18..78
Belmont.21..110	Chesterville.4..58	Farmingdale.18..93	Island Falls.3..140	Matinicus Isle.21..81	Phillips.4..55	S. Thomaston.21..81	Whiting.7..137
Benedicta.3..134	China.19..85	Farmington.4..56	Isle au Haut.12..123	Mattawamkeag.133	Phillips.4..55	Southwest Harbor.12..124	Whitneyville.7..136
Benton.13..85	Clifton.11..129	Fayette.17..95	Islesboro.14..110	Maxfield.5..134	Phillips.4..55	Springfield.6..132	Williamette.5..105
Berwick.33..5	Clinton.13..109	Ft. Fairfield.3..144	Jackman.4..103	Maxfield.5..134	Phillips.4..55	Stacyville.5..134	Wilton.8..54
Bethel.8..49	Codyville Plt.3..139	Ft. Kent.1..150	Jackson.14..109	Mechanic Falls.22..60	Perkins Twp.24..74	Standish.25..47	Windham.27..35/37/38
Biddeford.34..12-14	Columbia.7..136	Frankfort.14..112	Jay.8..57	Meddybemps.7..138	Perry.7..139	Starks.4..102	Windsor.20..87
Bingham.4..103	Columbia Falls.7..136	Franklin.12..126	Jefferson.20..84	Medford.5..105	Peru.15..57	Stetson.9..114	Winn.6..133
Blaine.3..142	Connor.1..148	Freedom.14..109	Jonesboro.7..136	Medway.5..134	Peru.15..57	Steuben.7..125	Winslow.13..85/86
Blanchard.5..104	Cooper.7..139	Freeport.26..41	Kenduskeag.6..114	Mercer.4..102	Peru.15..57	Stockholm.1..148	Winter Hrbr.12..125
Blue Hill.12..127	Corinna.9..107	Frenchboro.12..124	Kennebunk.34..7	Merrill.3..140	Peru.15..57	Stockton Spgs.14..112	Winterport.14..112
Boothbay.20..77	Corinth.6..114	Frenchville.1..150	Kennebunkport.34..8	Mexico.8..52	Peru.15..57	Stoneham.15..48	Winterville Plt.2..151
Boothbay Harbr.20..77	Cornish.25..15	Friendship.20..80	Kingfield.4..55	Milbridge.7..126	Peru.15..57	Stonington.12..123	Winthrop.18..94/95
Bowdoin.24..72	Cornville.9..101	Fryburg.15..48	Kingman Twp.3..133	Milford.11..128	Peru.15..57	Stow.15..48	Wiscasset.20..78
Bowdoinham.24..73/74	Cranberry Isl.12..124	Gardiner.18..92	Kingsbury Plt.5..104	Millinocket.5..135	Peru.15..57	Strong.4..55	Woodland.1..147
Bowerbank.5..105	Crawford.7..139	Garfield Plt.3..151	Kittery.35..1/2/3	Milo.5..105	Peru.15..57	Sullivan.12..126	Woodstock.15..52
Bradford.6..105	Criehaven.21..81	Garland.6..106	Knox.14..110	Milton Twp.8..52	Peru.15..57	Summit.6..132	Woodville.5..134
Bradley.11..128	Crystal.3..140	Georgetown.24..76	Lagrange.6..132	Minot.16..60	Peru.15..57	Summer.15..52	Woolwich.24..74
Bremen.20..79	Cumberland.27..38/39	Gilead.8..49		Monhegan Plt.20..81	Peru.15..57	Surry.12..127	Yarmouth.26..38/40
Brewer.11..120/121	Cushing.20..81	Glenburn.6..115		Mormouth.18..94	Peru.15..57	Swan's Isl.12..124	York.35..2/3
Bridgewater.3..142	Cyr Plt.1..148	Glenwood Plt.3..140		Monroe.14..109	Peru.15..57	Swanville.14..110	
Bridgton.15..46	Damariscotta.20..78	Gorham.28..35/36		Monson.5..104	Peru.15..57	Sweden.15..46	
	Cutler.7..137			Monticello.3..142	Peru.15..57	Talmadge.3..139	
				Montville.21..110	Peru.15..57	Temple.8..54	
				Moose River.4..103	Peru.15..57	The Forks Plt.4..103	
				Moro Plt.3..140	Peru.15..57	Thomaston.21..80	
				Morrill.21..110	Peru.15..57	Thorndike.14..109	
				Moscow.4..103	Peru.15..57	Topsham.24..73	
				Mt. Chase.5..134	Peru.15..57	Topsfield.3..139	
				Mt. Desert.12..124	Peru.15..57	Twp. 8..128	
				Mt. Vernon.17..95	Peru.15..57	Tremont.12..124	
				Naples.25..45	Peru.15..57	Trenton.12..124	
				Nashville Plt.2..151	Peru.15..57	Troy.14..108	
				Newburgh.9..113	Peru.15..57	Turner.16..59	
				New Canada.1..151	Peru.15..57	Union.20..84	
				Newcastle.20..78	Peru.15..57	Unity.14..109	

The Maine NOW Political Action Committee (MNP) has attempted to survey all the candidates running for the Maine State Legislature in 1986. All candidates were sent a written questionnaire. Follow-up phone calls were made to those candidates who did not return the questionnaire within a reasonable time. Some candidates refused to respond to our questionnaire. Others were just not able to be reached. Information on some folks who have been members of the Legislature is taken from their voting records on these issues.

**PRO-CHOICE:** The candidate has responded yes to the question: "Do you believe that the decision whether to have an abortion should be a personal decision left to the individual no matter how old she is?" or has a pro-choice voting record. This question includes the issue of mandatory parental consent. (Maine NOW is pro-choice.)

**PARENTAL CONSENT:** This is an important question. The Maine Right-to-Life Committee has announced its intention to collect enough signatures to put the question of parental consent for minors seeking abortions on the ballot in 1987. The candidate has responded yes to the above Pro-Choice question, or voted correctly in the 1985 Legislative Session when the parental consent issue was debated. (Maine NOW is opposed to parental consent for minors seeking abortions.)

**ABORTION FUNDING:** At a minimum, this candidate would "vote to include more comprehensive coverage for abortion funding under the state Medicaid program," according to a questionnaire response. (Currently, Medicaid only covers abortion to

save the woman's life.) Generally, this candidate is indicating support for wide, rather than narrow, expansion of coverage. (NOW supports Medicaid funding.)

**SEX EDUC IN SCHOOLS:** The candidate has answered yes to the question: "Do you believe that the State has a responsibility to fund sex education programs in our public schools?" (Maine NOW supports sex education in public schools.)

**LESBIAN/GAY RIGHTS:** Our question was worded in such a way as to allow candidates to indicate their support or opposition to the prohibiting of discrimination against lesbians and gay men in each of four areas — employment, housing, public accommodations and credit. A (+) indicates support in all four areas or a previous "yes" vote on the Gay Rights Bill. An "M" indicates mixed support and opposition. A (-) indicates opposition in all four areas or a previous "no" vote on the bill. (Maine NOW supports the Gay Rights Bill.)

**DATE RAPE:** The candidate has answered yes to the question: "Would you vote to amend the Statutes on Sex Offenses to eliminate the protection afforded people who rape individuals known to them socially (aka acquaintance or date rape)?" (Maine NOW supports such an amendment.)

**OBSCENITY REFER:** The candidate has answered no to the question "Do you think a censorship law like the anti-obscenity ordinance voted on June is an appropriate response to address violence against women?" (Maine NOW opposes such laws.)

**FED ERA:** The candidate has indicated support for a Federal Equal Rights Amendment. (Maine NOW supports the Federal ERA.)

(Y) in the endorsement column means that the candidate has received a Maine NOW Political Action Committee endorsement in this election.

(I) in the Incumbent column means that that candidate is either the current incumbent, or has held a seat in the Legislature at some time in the past.

Maine NOW PAC surveyed the candidates on other important issues including child care, AFDC funding, family planning, and prayer in schools. If you would like more information about any candidate, please contact JoAnne Dauphinee at 989-3306, or Christine Torraca at 761-1601, or write Maine NOW PAC, 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer, ME 04412.

The accompanying charts also include two items which come from a survey that the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance conducted. These are described below.

### AIDS

MLGPA asked candidates the following question about AIDS: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a disease spreading quickly around the world. Increasingly, public attention is focused on the disease. As a legislator would you support funding for education, treatment and support services? A plus means the candidate replied affirmatively. A minus means they said no. A blank means they did not respond.

### MLGPA recommendations

MLGPA voted on September 20 to endorse some candidates and offer statements of support to others. Endorsements mean the candidates answered MLGPA's questionnaire and support us on both civil rights and AIDS funding. A statement of support means that the candidate did not meet that criteria, but was judged the better candidate when all factors were taken into consideration.

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# Maine NOW-PAC Candidate Analysis and MLGPA Data

## Candidates for Maine Senate



District	Party	Incumbent	Endorsed	Pro-Choice	Parental Consent	Abortion \$	Sex Educ in Schools	L/G Rights	Date Rape	Obsc Refer	Fed ERA	AIDS	MLGPA recommendation
1	D	Roland Martin											
2	D	James Dunleavy			-	-	-	+				+	E
2	R	Donald Collins											
3	D	Joyce Roach											
3	R	Margaret Ludwig											
4	D	Robert Garland											
4	R	Charles Webster			-			-	-				
5	D	Charles Pray	I	Y	+	+	E	M	+	+	+	+	S
5	R	Malcolm Buchanan											
6	D	Mike Pearson			-	-	-	-					
6	R	Herman Roberts Jr											
7	D	William Yerxa II		Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
7	R	Edwin Randall	I		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
8	D	Edgar Erwin											
8	R	Russell Black											
9	D	Dennis Braley											
9	R	Jerome Emerson			M	+	-	M	-				
10	D	John Baldacci	I	Y	+	+		+	+	+			E
10	R	William England			+	+	+	M	+	+	+		
11	D	James Wagner			E	E	E	+	+	+	+		S
11	R	Mary-Ellen Maybury	I		+	+		M	-	+			
12	D	Carroll Brown		Y	+	+		+		+			S
12	R	Tom Perkins	I		+	+	-	M	-				
13	D	Zach Matthews	I	Y	+	-	-	+	M	+	-	+	S
13	R	Richard Poland											
14	D	Robert Sezak			+		+			+	+		
14	R	Robert Gould			E	E	+	E		+			
15	D	R. Donald Twitchell	I		-	-	-	-	-				
16	D	Georgette Berube	I		-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	E
17	D	Judy Kany	I	Y	M	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	S
17	R	Orville Olsson											
18	D	Charles Dow	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	-	+		S
18	R	Clifford West			-	-	+	M	+	+	-		
19	D	Beverly Bustin	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		E
19	R	Leroy Austin											
20	D	Raymond Shadis			-	+	+	-	+	+	-		
20	R	Charlotte Sewall	I	Y	+	+	+	+	M	+	+	+	S
21	D	Jean Chalmers	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
21	R	Linda Brawn											
22	D	John Michael	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	-	+		
22	R	R. Peter Whitmore											
23	D	N. Paul Gauvreau	I	Y	+	M	-	+	+	+	+	+	E
24	D	James Dow		Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
24	R	Pamela Cahill	I		+	+		-	+	+			
25	D	Philip Atkinson, Jr			-	-	+	E	+				
25	R	Henry Black	I	Y	+	+	+	M		+			
26	D	Nancy Clark	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
26	R	Brian Bicknell											
27	D	Gary Cooper	I	Y	+	+		+					S
27	R	Robert Dillenback	I		+	M		-		+	-		
28	D	Ronald Usher	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		S
28	R	Linwood Graffam			E	-	+	-	+	+			
29	D	Joseph Brannigan	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		S
30	D	Thomas Andrews	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
31	D	John Kerry	I		-	-	-					+	E
31	R	Robert McNally											
32	R	Barbara Gill	I		-	+	-	M	-			+	S
33	D	John Tuttle	I		-	-	-	-					
33	R	Howard Chick											
34	D	Dennis Dutremble	I		-	-	-	-					
34	R	Marguer. Pendergast			-	-		-					
35	D	Stephen Estes			+		E	+	M	+	+		S
35	R	Joann Lancaster											

## Candidates for Maine House

District	Party	Incumbent	Endorsement	Pro-Choice	Parental Consent	Abortion \$	Sex Educ	L/G Rights	Date Rape	Obsc Ref	Fed ERA	AIDS	MLGPA
1	D	Frederick Soucy	I		+			-		-			
1	R	Cecil Lancaster			-	-		-		-			
2	D	Neil Rolde	I	Y	M	+	-	E	+	?	+	+	E
2	R	Nancy H. Milani			E	E	E				+		
3	D	Joanne Ferriter											
3	R	Orland McPherson	I		M	+	-			+			
4	R	Wesley Farnum	I		-			-					
5	D	Floyd Dickson											
5	R	Eleanor Murphy	I		-			-					
6	D	John Miller											
6	R	Alberta Wentworth	I		M	-	-	+	M	+	+	-	
7	D	Kevin Flynn											
7	R	Thomas Murphy Jr	I		+	M	-		-	-	+		
8	D	Charles W. Sullivan											
8	R	H. Stedman Seavey	I		+	-	+		M	-			
9	D	Vinton Ridley	I		-			-		-			
9	R	James Crossman											
10	D	Mona Walker Hale	I		+	+	-		-		+		
10	R	Lawrence Libby			+	+	+	E			+		
11	D	Norman Paul	I					-					
11	R	Carlton Chamberlin											
12	D	Carl Sheltra											
12	R	Linda Leeman											
13	D	Lucien Dutremble											
13	R	James Boone											
14	D	Norman Racine	I			M		-	-				
14	R	Diane Benoit Deering											
15	D	John Monteith		Y	+		?	?			+		
15	R	Willis Lord	I		E	-	E	-			-		
16	D	Robert Hoffman		Y		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
16	R	Kerry Kimball	I						M		+		
17	D	John McSweeney	I								+		
17	R	Timothy Tucker											
18	D	Guy R. Nadeau	I			M		M					S
18	R	Elizabeth Shaw											
19	D	Daniel Warren	I	Y	+	+	+		+		+		S
19	R	Robert Pendleton Jr						-				+	
20	D	Christo Anton											
20	R	Linwood Higgins	I		M	-	+		M	-			
21	D	Christine Joyce			+	+	+		+	+	+		
21	R	Mary Clark Webster	I		+	+	+		-		+		
22	D	Nadine Byram		Y		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	S
22	R	Earl Nicholson	I			+			-				
23	D	Cushman Anthony		Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
23	R	Harold Johnson											
24	D	Harold Macomber	I			M		-	-				
25	D	Anne Rand				+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
26	D	Laurence Connolly Jr	I	Y	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	E
26	R	Ronald McClay											
27	D	Harlan Baker	I	Y	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	E
28	D	Gerard Conley Jr											S
28	R	Everett Giles											
29	D	Peter Manning	I			-		M	-				
30	D	Harriet Ketover		Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
30	R	Glenn Coombs											
31	D	Christopher S Gurney			?	?			?		+		
31	R	Edwin Thurston											
32	D	Annette Hoglund	I	Y	+	+	E		+		+		S
32	R	Chris Robinson				-	+	+	+	+	+		
33	D	William O'Gara	I		+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	E
33	R	Royden Cote											
34	D	J Robert Carrier	I		-	-	-		-	+			
34	R	Philip Curran		Y	+	-	E	+	?	+	+		S
35	D	Elden McKeen											
35	R	Gerald Hillock	I		+	-	E		-		E		

continued on page 6

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# Candidates for Maine House

District	Party	Incumbent	Endorsement	Pro-Choice	Parental Consent	Abortion \$	Sex Educ	L/G Rights	Date Rape	Obsc Ref	Fed ERA	AIDS	MLGPA
36	D	Ada Brown	I										
36	R	Edwin Laverty		+									
37	D	Dennis Libby											
37	R	Barbara Strout											
38	D	Theodore Davis											
38	R	David Stanley											
39	D	Joyce Harmon		Y	+	E	+	+	+	+	+		S
39	R	Gary Reed											
40	D	John Crockett		Y		+	+	+	+	+	+		E
40	R	Judith Foss	I		+	+	+						
41	D	James Mitchell	I	Y	+	M	+	+	+	+	+		E
41	R	Suzanne Harding											
42	D	Charlene Rydell	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		E
42	R	Philip Stoddard											
43	D	Charles Priest	I	Y		+		+					S
43	R	D Gregory Fall											
44	D	Donnell Carroll	I		+	M	-	+	+	+	+		E
44	R	Clifton Foster											
45	D	P Kelley Simpson	I	Y	+	+	E				+		S
45	R	Leonard Wood											
46	D	Robert Van Waes		Y		+	+	+	+	+	+		S
46	R	Philip Jackson	I		+	-	+						
47	D	Marian Gowen											
47	R	Ernest C Greenlaw	I		+	M					+		
48	D	Ernest Willey											
48	R	William Lawrence	I			+							
49	D	Jeffery Mills	I	Y	+	+	E		+		+		S
49	R	Tom Winsor											
50	D	Joseph Walker	I		E	M	E				E		
50	R	Roland Sutton			M								
51	D	Olive Moore											
51	R	Dana Hanley											
52	D	Francis Perry	I		+	-	+				+		
52	R	Louis Cayer											
53	D	Phyllis Erwin	I			+							
53	R	Randy Hotham											
54	R	Richard Armstrong	I			+							
55	D	William Stimson											
55	I	Greg Gerritt											
55	R	Edward Dexter	I		-	-	-				+		
56	D	Gwilym Roberts	I		+	+	+				+		
56	R	Ronald Bailey											
57	D	Richard McCollister	I			+				A			
57	I	Douglas Lane		Y	+	-	+	+	+	+	+		S
57	R	Gary Bickford			-	-	-	+		+			
58	D	Richard Tracy			E						+		
58	R	Darryl Brown	I		-	-	-						
59	D	John Nutting			E		-	+					
59	R	Roy Nickerson	I			-							
60	D	Kenwood Freeley			-	-	-	+	+	+	+		S
60	R	Daniel Callahan	I		E	-	?				+		
61	D	JoAnne LaPointe			+			E			+		
61	R	Ralph White		Y	+		+	E			+		
62	D	Constance Cote	I	Y	+	M		M			+		S
62	R	Glenn West											
63	D	Susan Dore		Y		+	+	+	+	+	+		S
63	R	David Young											
64	D	Gilles Lessard											E
64	R	John Telow	I		-	-	-						
65	D	John Aliberti	I			+							
65	R	Mark Dube			+	-	-	+	M	-	+	+	S
66	D	Brad Boutiller	I	Y	E	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
66	R	Michael Hamlyn				-	-	-	M	+	+		
67	D	Gregory Nadeau	I		-	+	-		+				
68	D	James Handy	I	Y	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	E
69	D	Roger Pouliot	I			-			+				S
69	R	Martha Watson			-	-	-	-					
70	D	Margaret Clark		Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
70	R	Arlene L Tamoush											
71	D	John Jalbert	I			-							
71	R	Albert Junkins			E	-	-	+		+	+	+	S
72	D	James Dougherty		Y		-	+	+	+	+	+		S
72	R	Albert Stevens	I		+	-	+	+	M	-	+	+	
73	D	Lorraine Chonko	I	Y	+	M	E		+				S
73	R	Jerome Brannigan											
74	D	Maria Glen Holt		Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
74	R	Ruth Leonard											
75	D	Robert Carmichael Jr											
75	R	Mary Small	I		+	+	+						
76	D	James Reed Coles	I	Y	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	S
76	I	Arthur Powers			+	+					+		
76	R	Jeanne Rogers											
77	D	Donald Stanley Jr											
77	R	Muriel Holloway	I			+							

Maine House														
District	Party		Incumbent	Endorsement	Pro-Choice	Parental Consent	Abortion \$	Sex Educ	L/G Rights	Date Rape	Obsc Ref	Fed ERA	AIDS	MLGPA
78	D	Marjorie Kilkelly		Y		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
78	R	Rufus Stetson Jr	I		M	+	+		-					
79	D	Robertta Farris												
79	R	Jeanne Begley	I		+	+			-			+		
80	D	Joseph Mayo	I		-	M	-		-		-	+		
80	R	Robert Beattie												
81	D	Donald Kingsbury												
81	I	A Edward Cutting												
81	R	Guy Scarpino	I		+	-	-	+	-		-	+	+	
82	D	Rita Melendy	I	Y		+			+					S
82	R	Richard Warner				-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	
83	D	James Perry		Y		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
83	R	Priscilla Taylor	I		+	+	+		-			+		
84	D	Carol Allen	I		+	+	+		-		-	+		
84	R	Elmer Savage			+	-	+	+		+		+		
85	D	Steven Clyde Russell												
85	R	Paul Parent	I		-	-	-		-		-			
86	D	Donald Carter	I		-	-	-		-		-			
86	R	Mary Morrison			E	E			E			+		S
87	R	Harland Bragg	I			-			-					
88	D	John Dudley		Y	+	E	+	+	+	+		+		S
88	R	Donald Sproul	I		E	-	-		-			-		
89	D	Patrick Paradis	I		-	-	-		M					
90	D	Daniel Hickey	I		-	-	-		M					S
90	R	Mary Hanks			E	-	-	-		+		+		
91	D	Polly Reeves	I	Y	+	+	+		+			+	+	E
91	R	Ronald Lord												
92	D	Peter Johnson												
92	R	Jean Dellert	I		+	+	+	E	M	+	+	+		S
93	R	Norman Weymouth	I			+			-					
94	D	Kathryne O'Donnell		Y	+		-		+			+		S
94	R	Leland Davis Jr	I		M	M	+		-					
95	D	John Daggett	I			-			-					
95	R	Omar Norton			+	-	+	+	-	+		-		
96	D	Elaine Lacroix	I			-			+					S
96	R	Peter McKenney												
97	D	Paul Jacques	I		-	-	-		-					
97	R	Robert Genevicz												
98	D	Ruth Joseph	I	Y	+	+			+			+	+	E
98	R	Salvatore Isgro												
99	D	Dan Gwadosky	I		M	+	-		-					
99	R	William Hagerty						+	+	-		+		S
100	D	Francis Henderson												
100	R	Michael Hepburn	I		+	+	-		-			+		
101	D	Patrick McGowan	I		E	-	-		-			+		
101	R	Melvin Hogate Sr												
102	D	Alexander Richard	I		-	-	?		M			+		
102	R	Douglas Libby												
103	D	Dorothy Rotondi	I		+	-	-		-					
103	R	Jean Cabral												
104	D	Richard Gould							-				+	
104	R	Duane Richard Lander	I		E	-	-		-			+		
105	D	Robert Hussey Jr				-	-	+	+	+	+	+		S
105	R	Everett Worcester												
106	D	Dale Thistle												
106	R	Stephen Law	I		M	-	-		-					
107	D	James Peakes												
107	R	Weston Sherburne	I		M	M	-		-					
108	D	Robert Tardy	I			-			-					
108	R	Mary Reeves												
109	D	John Newell Sanborn												
109	R	Dana Stevenson	I		-	-			-					
110	D	Robert Stallworth		Y	+		+		+			+		S
110	R	Walter Whitcomb	I			M			-					
111	D	Louis Solebello Jr		Y		E	+		+		+	+		S
111	R	Francis Marsano												
112	D	Nat Crowley Sr	I		-	-	-		-		+		+	
112	R	Mary Birmingham												
113	D	Douglas Casement												
113	R	Ralph Willey	I		-	M			-					
114	D	Katherine L.S. Eves		Y		+	+	+	+	+	+	+		S
114	R	Donald Strout	I		-	-	-		-					
115	R	Catharine Lebowitz	I		+	-	-		-		-	-		
116	D	Tom Duffy	I		E	+			-			+		
116	R	John Downing Jr												
117	D	Patricia Stevens	I	Y	+	+	E	+	+	E	+	+	+	E
117	R	David Chotkowski						-	E	+	+			
118	D	Bruce Carlisle			+									
118	R	Joseph Garland												
119	D	John Diamond	I	Y	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+		S
119	R	Roger Lycette												
120	D	Richard Ruhlín	I	Y	E	+	E		+			+	+	E
120	R	Gerald Robertson												
121	D	Helen Patterson				+	+	+	-	+	+	+		



District	Party	Incumbent	Endorsement	Pro-Choice	Parental Consent	Abortion \$	Sex Educ	L/G Rights	Date Rape	Obsc Ref	Fed FRA	AIDS	MLGPA
122	D	E Michael Swazey											
122	R	Bernice Mitchell										+	E
123	D	Glenith Gray	Y		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
123	R	Sally Rice	I		-						+		
124	D	Christine Hartman											
124	R	Stephen Zirnkilton	I	E	+			-		+			
125	D	Donald Rowe	Y		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
125	R	Roland Salisbury Jr	I		-			-		+			
126	D	Harold West	Y		-	+	+	+	-	+	+		S
126	R	Frank Farren Jr			-	-							
127	D	Marion Hineline	Y	+	+	+	+	M	+	+	+		S
127	R	Ruth Foster	I		+	M		-		-			
128	D	MaryAnne Healey	Y	+	E	+	+	+	+		+		
128	R	Eugene Paradis	I		-			-		-			
129	D	Stephen Bost	I		+	+	E	+	M	+	+	+	
130	D	Paula Ashton											S
130	R	John Bott	I		+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	
131	D	John Cashman	I		-	-	-	-		-			
131	R	Robert Trippe											
132	D	James Dudley			-	-	-	-		-			
132	R	Clyde Hichborn	I		-	+	+	-			+	+	
133	D	R Eugene Libby											
133	R	Betty Harper	I		-			-					
134	D	Michael Michaud	I		M	-	-	-		-			
134	R	Lawrence Lockman										-	
135	D	Herbert Clark	I		-	-	-	-			+		
136	D	Norman Nelson	Y		-	-	-	+		+	+		S
136	R	Theone Look			-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
137	D	Harry Vose	I		M	+	+	M			+		
137	R	Cliv Dore											
138	D	Antonio Tammaro	I		-	-	-	+	M	+	-	+	
138	R	Anthony DiCenzo			-	-	-	-	+		+		
139	D	Fred Moholland	I			M		M		-			
139	I	Betty McLaughlin											
139	R	Robert Hazelwood	Y		+	+	E	M	+	-	+		S
140	D	Carl B Smith	I		M	-	-	-		+			
140	R	Clement Thorne			-	-	+	-	E		+		
141	R	Gennette Ingraham	I		+	+	+	-			+		
142	D	Hollis Smith											
142	R	Mary MacBride	I		-	-	-	-		-			
143	D	John Lisnik	I		+			-		-			
144	D	Carolyn Mahany	Y	+	E	+			+	+	+		S
144	R	Torr Harmer			+	-	-	-	-	-	-		
145	R	Susan Pines	I		-			-		-			
146	D	Bertha Libby			+	-	+	M		-	+	+	S
146	R	Kenneth Matthews	I		-	-	-	-		+			
147	D	Forest Ayer	I		E	+	+	M	+	+	+		S
147	R	Malachi Anderson			+	-	E	+	-	+	+		
148	D	Hilda Martin	I		-			-		-			
148	R	Charles Anderson											
149	D	Edward McHenry	I		-	-	-	-					
149	R	Thomas Hale											
150	D	Raynold Theriault	I		?	-	+	-		-	+		
151	D	John Martin	I		-	-	-	-		-	+		
151	R	V Dana Allison											

## Huber

continued from page 1

candidates fell short of earning an endorsement, either because they didn't return the questionnaire or expressed only partial support for the issues, but were extended a statement of support. In these races, MLGPA felt the differences between the candidates were significant enough to encourage its membership to vote for a particular individual. All things being equal, other factors considered were the candidate's past support for lesbian and gay rights, his/her positions on other progressive issues, and positions held by the opposing candidate.

"I was pleasantly surprised at the number of responses we received," said Harry Gordon, MLGPA Secretary, of the fifty-six questionnaires returned. "Our focus is somewhat narrow and our interest raises such emotion in the general public that it's really difficult for people running for office to come out on the side supporting gay people. I was glad to see so many did."

Of the gubernatorial candidates, both McKernan and Menario stated that existing laws are sufficient to protect the civil rights of Maine people. Neither supported expanding the Maine Human Rights Act to include "sexual orientation." Menario indicated that he would support funding for AIDS-related education, treatment and support services. McKernan cited his past support for federal legislation "to increase funds for research into the causes of AIDS and for outreach to AIDS sufferers." He added, "This legislation is a first step toward better treatment and control of this deadly disease, and represents a commitment on the part of the federal government to conquering AIDS."

Democratic candidate for Governor

Jim Tierney did not respond to the survey. Said MLGPA President Dale McCormick, "I was disappointed Tierney didn't respond and come across officially as well as he has come across to me personally."

Only Huber expressed support for an amendment to the Maine Human Rights Act. On funding for AIDS education, treatment and services, she said, "My administration would continue current efforts to educate the public about AIDS and provide necessary medical care to AIDS patients in a non-discriminatory manner, as well as to protect them from discrimination in their daily lives."

"I'm excited about the endorsement of Sherry Huber for governor," said Gordon. "It appears right now that the Democratic candidate, Mr. Tierney, is just not doing his homework. He's not clicking out there." Gordon added, "Huber does have a long-haul ahead of her but it looks promising. She's gaining momentum you can't see in the others."

Carolyn Stewart, Huber's Press Secretary, told *Our Paper*, "We're delighted with the endorsements. We've already seen the NOW endorsement having a tremendous impact on the campaign. These two endorsements mean activists getting involved and that's really important."

When asked if she thought MLGPA's endorsement might have a negative effect, Campaign Manager Jane Fowler said, "I think, unfortunately, that may exist and that's exactly why Sherry feels so strongly that people should not be discriminated against. If there was nothing negative involved, the need to fight against discrimination wouldn't exist."

Stewart added, "We've already put out our positions on these issues all over the state. People know where Sherry stands."

No responses were received from Second Congressional District candidates

continued on page 11

# Sherry HUBER

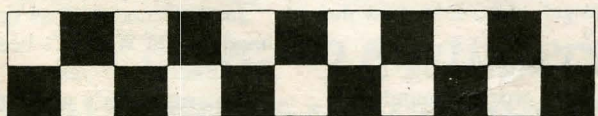


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# Music and Politics: A Conversation with Ova

by Barb Leclerc and Kathryn Baptista  
Photos by K.P.

Ova is a London-based music collective of four women — two musicians, Rosemary Schonfeld and Jana Runnals; sound engineer, Livvy Elliot; and administrator, Jenny Gibbs. Ova's music is released on Stroppy Cow Records, an independent feminist label dedicated to encouraging women to create music without the pressures of commercialism.

In England, "stroppy cow" is an insult used against women who are strong and independent — women who do not do what they are told. It comes from a Medieval word "stroppe," which was a cow that refused to yield milk. Ova has reclaimed the word insisting they are indeed very stroppy women.

On August 16th, Ova performed at Woodfords Congregational Church for a full and enthusiastic audience. Their music, which incorporates vocals, clarinet, guitars, African drum, log-drum, and kalimba, defies conventional music categorization.

While Ova was in Portland Our Paper had the opportunity to interview them.

**Barb:** How did Ova begin?

**Jana:** We met ten years ago. We were introduced by a mutual friend, a gay man in London. I was living in Paris at the time. I had come to London to spend the Christmas holiday, and he introduced us as

tain our musical friendship since, for ten years now.

**Rosemary:** We wouldn't have called ourselves feminists when we met by any means, but we came out together and our personal politics developed and for each of us, as musicians, we were always very much into expressing ourselves through our music rather than writing commercial pop songs which didn't mean anything. We found our music reflecting our growing sense of personal politics and it just went from there, really.

**Barb:** I have three tapes here. Your newest one I really enjoy a lot. There are a lot of drums and Afro-rhythms. I don't hear that much in American feminist music and I don't know if that is because I haven't heard a lot of American feminist music. Kathryn and I have a running debate between us. I think you're a lot different from American feminist musicians.

**Rosemary:** Totally different.

**Jana:** We are totally different. but what kind of difference do you hear?

**Barb:** A lot of American feminist musicians tend to be very folky. I don't hear a lot of drums or a lot of horns. I hear saxophones in your music.

**Jana:** My instrument is clarinet but I used soprano sax on the last album, to add some color.

**Rosemary:** Drumming is very important to us but you said Afro-rhythms. We actually do not copy any rhythms. We never studied African rhythms. What we are try-



Jana Runnals

Neither of us has studied drumming. Like Rosemary said, we are finding our own rhythms, our own sense of expression. We find it's incredibly important to say that, all the time. We do not go to classes to learn from men. We have, from our own hearts, picked up on these rhythms which everyone should be able to share.

**Kathryn:** What do you feel is the difference between the music that you and other English and European women's artists do and the women's music done in the states? First of all, do you consider yourselves women's music artists?

**Jana:** Yes. We even consider ourselves pioneers because there are very few other women in Europe doing what we're doing. If they are, there have been very few recordings. There have been a lot of women's bands coming and going but nobody in England has ever had the money to actually put it on vinyl. We feel that we have stuck by our principles and not compromised all this time. We believe it is important to call ourselves woman-identified musicians, lesbian-identified musicians, because that's where the strength of our message and the

women in Europe are much more anarchic in their approach.

**Jana:** Yes. I think what I was trying to say is that we feel that America is surrounded by a great big blanket. That you can't really feel what's going on in other countries because you're so far away and because everything about America is America-centered. Of course, every country is centered on their nationalism, and I'm aware that it's important for us not to be nationally-minded in women's culture. We need to get away from that now.

We travel around Germany once a year. We've been doing that for six years and we've learned a lot about what those women have to deal with. Facism is still alive and kicking, not only in Germany, but England as well. I think it's important to realize that what we're sharing is something very new. They're trying to get away from their past. We're all trying to get away from our past, but bearing in mind that's what is influencing us, that's what's coloring our way of looking at the world.

I think cultural crossover in terms of travelling, and in terms of hearing what other women are dealing with, is important, rather than perhaps, what happens here is musical crossover, where women go off and play with men and it becomes more and more commercialized. What's the pinnacle? It's Carnegie Hall. We don't aim at those kinds of things. Success for us is on a much smaller scale. It's bringing women together with a sense of community.

We're at a time when the feeling of isolation is running rampant. Everyone is feeling isolated in some way or another, because we are being weakened by the liberalization of our movement. I feel that now in England; I felt it here six years ago when we first came to the states. We thought, "What the hell is going on here? Why is separatism such a dirty word? Why are men allowed in women's bars? Why are there no women-only parties any longer?" We could not understand where it was coming from, and it felt very dangerous to us because it was undermining our sense of ourselves. Every woman has the right to choose individually whether she wants to have men in her life or not. But if we get male presence forced on us I think that's a real violation in every sense of the word. It's what's happening out in the world — Men

**"Everyone is feeling isolated in some way or another, because we're being weakened by the liberalization of our movement. I feel it now in England, and we felt it here six years ago when we first came to the states. We thought, 'What the hell is going on? Why is separatism such a dirty word? Why are men allowed in women's bars? Why are there no women-only parties any longer?' Our space for ourselves is our form of healing and we need to have that choice at any point during our lives."**

"women singer/songwriters." By that time I was a bit tired of playing with men, and I was constantly battling for space and being treated as a sex object most of the time for being a singer, etc. Rosemary was having similar battles. She was a singer in a rock band and played 12 string guitar, and they kept turning her down on the amp.

So we were kind of pleased to meet each other. We became lovers at that point because we were both looking for a lesbian relationship. I had been involved in bisexual relationships in Paris and I was getting rather tired of them. Our relationship lasted about a year and we've managed to main-

ing to do is discover our own. I do a lot of rhythm workshops with women where we pick different rhythms to play. We're interested in combining drums from lots of different cultures. We've got Chinese drums and African drums, drums from South America. As women, we believe we can find our own rhythms. We're not trying to copy any other culture's rhythms.

**Jana:** We feel quite sensitive about that because black feminists in England are often saying to us, "Listen, you're trying to rip our culture off." And we are saying, "No, we are building our own culture. This music and these rhythms come from ourselves."

**"We do not copy any rhythms. What we are trying to do is discover our own. We are aiming our music at women; it's for women. The inspiration comes from women's lives."**

strength of our conviction comes from. We're not intending to sell out in any way. We're not interested in big commercial companies. We do not see the point in being commercial.

**Rosemary:** We believe in high quality, high standards, but primarily we're aiming our music at women; it's for women. Yes, men listen to it too, but the inspiration comes from women and women's lives. To try and take that and dilute it, to be acceptable and respectable — we're not interested in that. Yes, we want to reach as wide an audience as possible but not at the expense of our integrity.

**Jana:** The question you asked about what differences you see between our cultures. Well, America has got...Oh, dear, how do I put this politely?

**Rosemary:** It's (America) a huge country. It's got 6% of the world's population consuming 33% of the world's energy. By our standards, you've got access to huge and vast resources. It's great to see women tapping that but there is no other country in the world where women have access to this kind of money and technology. I think a lot of

and Technology.

**Rosemary:** The women's movement started pretty early here in the states relative to anywhere else in the world, but you can't change 3000 years of history in ten years. Many of the changes we want we're not going to see in our lifetimes. Partly because America's such a young country, where everything has happened so fast in the last 150 years, that the sense of time is different. You think, these changes have been made now. In Europe, they were still burning witches 200 years ago. Nine million witches, over 400 years, nearly all women. That's the official number. In Germany, in one village, Trier, they killed all but two of the women in the village.

**Jana:** Genocide wasn't confined to the Second World War. It's been going on there for hundreds of years.

**Rosemary:** It's never taught in history. These women who were called witches were healers.

There are really deep issues in terms of men and women coexisting on this planet and to think that ten years can change everything is naive.

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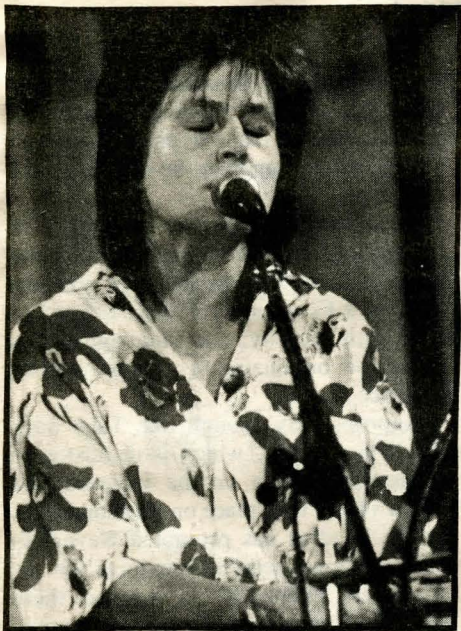
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**Rosemary Schonfeld**

**Jana:** That's why we advocate separatism. Let's try to find a new word if separatism is such a dirty word. Our space for ourselves is our form of healing and we need to have that choice at any point in our lives.

**Rosemary:** While there's a porn industry, while there's wife beating, while there's rape.

**Jana:** Queerbashing.

**Kathryn:** Yeah, this is a big state for that. (Tells Ova about Charlie Howard.)

**Jana:** America is such a violent country. You all deal with it, so we'll deal with it too. Violence in England takes a different form. It's quite insidious. You might have heard of the inner urban riots we've been having. Police are beginning to be armed. That's a big step. They've been practicing in Northern Ireland with their plastic bullets. The violence is a different kind. It may be a

**"There are really deep issues in terms of men and women coexisting on this planet and to think that ten years can change everything is naive."**

democratic country but the male violence, as patriarchy is beginning to crumble, is getting more extreme. We are getting the backlash of it all. I think that's something women share globally at the moment. We are definitely becoming more savvy about male violence.

**Kathryn:** I think the social tone is much more overt than it is here. We try to hide it here. It's probably similar in both places but it exposes itself more (in Europe), which in some ways is less scary because it isn't undermining you without your seeing it.

**Rosemary:** That's what I think walking down the street sometimes. On the surface it seems a lot calmer, less threatening, but how many of these men have guns in their pockets?

**Jana:** America is very unique in its set of problems. The problem we have to deal with is that social change is so slow. Saying you're a lesbian in public in England, for example, would mean that you could be beaten up. When someone told me here that she could say she was a dyke at work, I was so shocked I couldn't even answer back.

**Barb:** That makes me wonder. How do people deal with your music with its overtly lesbian lyrics?

**Jana:** The two of us together cause a very strong aura. It's very difficult for men to do anything about. We do one song called "One Day I'm Going to Kill a Man in Self-defense," and the strongest reaction we got was here in 1980 in Washington D.C., these two guys walked out making a hell of a lot of noise.

**Rosemary:** Men often feel uncomfortable in the audience with that song. Generally, we've had air play. The worst thing we've had is not people reacting when they're hearing but in being censored. It's a battle getting on the air. That's how they deal with it.

**Jana:** They just invisibilize us. We have been so censored.

**Rosemary:** Radio is very different here than in England. There aren't community radios. It's very government controlled.

**Jana:** There was going to be a bill accepting community radio, but Thatcher's just cut that. We got funded to get the Women's Music Resource Center together. Also, the community radios got funded by them with the expectation that the bill was going to just die before they've begun. That just happened before we left. Our funding has been continued by our local council in London. Now this is something you just don't have here — this kind of financial aid as recognition as a valuable artistic addition to the community.

**Kathryn:** No, you see the corporations are supposed to do that.

**Rosemary:** If Thatcher had her way, that is what she would do. Thatcher wants the arts to be much more supported by private industry.

**Jana:** She is so influenced by Ronald, isn't she? It shouldn't be like that. They should have central government funding. We are and have been the only group of our kind funded in that way. It's unusual. Lots of theatre groups, but not music groups.

**Barb:** Women's music in America doesn't get played on stations except maybe college stations.

**Jana:** What I see with American women's music, coming back to the original question, is that women here tend to stick with one style at a time. Either folk, or jazz, or reggae, or rock and roll, or Latin.

They all do it very well and it's very structured and very well held together. But what we feel is a lack of a feeling of anarchy.

**Kathryn:** Spontaneity?

**Jana:** Yes, spontaneity and anarchy, that you're going to break your boundaries and make something new with how you perceive the world, which is how we see women's music. I'm not saying we're better, but we have got a different way of looking at it. What we do not only appeals to English women but to most European women.

**Kathryn:** I think that what happens to the American musicians is the threat of extinction. You've experienced it yourselves — the funding gets cut and there's always this edge. Olivia has gone through all kinds of crazy things. They've come back and recognized that their market is women but they were trying to go commercial for a while and it didn't work.

**Jana:** Of course it didn't. So naive, isn't it? I think fear breeds fear. I believe that we are going to heal the world with our intention and we're going to make ourselves strong with our intention. If you go around with a fear that you're not going to make it, then of course you're not going to make it.

**Kathryn:** A few years ago I saw Holly Near in concert, and she said something I want to get your reaction to. She had just come back from a European tour and said she thought all of the people in other coun-

ted. Big strong big brother. But we should be talking about music.

**Barb:** I was curious — who inspired you musically through the years, and how did you get started on your musical journey?

**Rosemary:** I love all sorts of music and I get something from whatever I listen to that I like. When I was a teenager the Beatles really inspired me. A lot of my approach to music comes from the influence of them because they were so imaginative musically and lyrically, adventurous with sounds and yet they played songs that everyone could enjoy.

**Jana:** That's what brought us together, actually. We both love the Beatles. We started off playing Beatles songs together.

I've been influenced throughout the years by various strong rock singers like Janis Joplin, Joni Mitchell, and Joan Armatrading — all these strong women. But at the same time I've been really into avant garde jazz and Brazilian and African music. After a while you can't say you were inspired by this or that because your ears develop, your personality develops. As you grow older you know what you like and don't like. I know I do not like heavy metal music. What it represents is something very, very male. I do believe women's music should be, is, and can be something very refreshing, giving, and nurturing. Just being at Michigan we felt that.

**Kathryn:** You've been together for a long



**Jana Runnals and Rosemary Schonfeld**

tries who are affected by decisions made in the United States should have a vote in American presidential elections.

**Jana:** Yes. We're beginning to feel like the 52nd state at the moment.

**Kathryn:** Especially with your friend there (Margaret Thatcher).

**Jana:** Yes, and the paranoia about terrorism. Public opinion in England and Europe was so against what Reagan did with Libya. I was in shock for about two weeks, and everybody else I knew was too, because it affects English travellers abroad. We're targets now, and for what? What has he pro-

time. What changes do you see you've made and women's music has made?

**Rosemary:** We started off very acoustic. Jana played flute and I had one twelve string. We have our own P.A. now. We use effects. We play electric guitars. Jana plays clarinet more, and we use a lot of percussion. In our acts we use backing tapes as well.

**Jana:** I'm more experimental with my voice than I was then. I use a lot of delay effects and try to encourage Rosemary to do the same thing. Using the voice as an instrument, I think, is very important for women.

*continued on page 11*

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## AIDS Summit Establishes Coalition

by Fred Berger

The second annual "AIDS Summit" of gay and lesbian groups and individuals concerned with AIDS led to the formation of a permanent coalition. The September 14 meeting in Portland was attended by 14 people representing a variety of health and political organizations. Frank Brooks, co-chair of the Committee on Gay/Lesbian Issues of the Maine Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, moderated the forum.

The meeting began with brief presentations by representatives of the groups in attendance. Gary Anderson, director of The AIDS Project set the stage by updating the group on AIDS statistics in Maine. He said that there have been 25 officially diagnosed cases since December of 1984 but that because the statistics usually lag behind the actual current number, he believes the actual count to be closer to 30. Anderson spoke of the tremendous growth that the AIDS Project has experienced in the past year. He said that although education remains a primary focus, the group has gone beyond "pamphlet-pushing" to outreach to police departments, jails, and other facilities and agencies. He expects that the AIDS Project will work more and more with mainstream organizations in the future.

Anderson spoke of a state grant which has allowed the AIDS Project to conduct counseling related to the HIV antibody test. He said he hopes that funds to be administered by the state Advisory Committee on AIDS, of which he is a member, will allow the AIDS Project to expand its services in the next year.

Dale McCormick of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance (MLGPA) spoke next about her group's involvement with AIDS. Dale said that she will be involved with attempts by the state legislature to set up an insurance pool for people who are not able to secure health insurance. Dale said she has already attended one meeting of a working group established to examine the issue and was disturbed to find the group made up almost entirely of representatives of insurance companies.

McCormick said she also serves on the state's Advisory Committee on AIDS where she is chair of the education subcommittee, one of three standing committees. (Perry Sutherland is chair of the testing and counseling subcommittee and Debbie Walsh chairs the services subcommittee.) Dale said

there is much sentiment on the Advisory Committee for AIDS education in schools.

In other AIDS-related activity, MLGPA included a question on AIDS funding in the questionnaire it sent to 380 current and potential legislators.

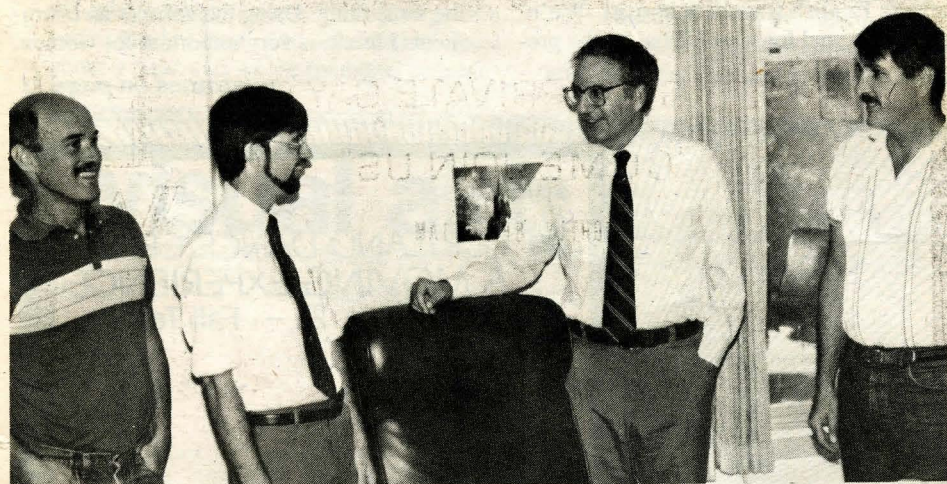
Albert Nickerson, past president of the Maine Health Foundation reported on the activities of that organization. He said that since its founding in 1983 the group has received \$18,500 in contributions. Of this money, 64% came from businesses and organizations, 25% from individual donors, and 11% was raised through Maine Health Foundation fundraisers. The group has spent approximately \$14,000 of which 81% went to the AIDS Project.

Following Albert's report, Al Hurley of the Central Maine Health Foundation spoke of his group's efforts. He said that the organization has conducted educational seminars, operated a hotline in Lewiston, and provided counseling.

Dr. Karen Kalustian of Augusta announced that she will be conducting training in October for people in her area who will do counseling related to the HIV antibody test. Karen expressed concern that many people are currently having the antibody test taken without their consent and with no guarantee of confidentiality. "I suspect that half of the tests sent to the state lab are in that category," she said. Kalustian said she is very interested in working to get professionals to refer potential testees to the alternative test sites where such guarantees are in effect.

After lunch the meeting reconvened to set some priorities for future action. Among the goals stated were: to encourage individuals interested in the HIV antibody test to go through the alternate test sites rather than private physicians; to encourage doctors to refer their patients to these sites if they desire the test; to work to insure that programs exist for women and children with AIDS; and to encourage the Bureau of Health to quickly articulate its program on AIDS.

The final action taken by the summit participants was to agree to establish a permanent coalition of groups concerned about AIDS. Peaches Bass of Camden volunteered to serve as temporary chair of this new group. Any organization interested in participating in this coalition should send a letter of interest to Peaches stating who the group's representative will be.



On Friday, August 22, representatives of The AIDS Project met with Sen. George Mitchell at his office in Portland. Present were Gary L. Anderson, Executive Director; Fred Berger, President of the Board of Directors; and Fred Rice, HTLV-III Counselor and AIDS-Line trainer. The purpose of the meeting was to acquaint Sen. Mitchell with the work being done in Maine by TAP and to outline areas of concern that will need to be resolved at the national level (e.g. making ARC a presumptive disability, AIDS and Safer Sex ads in the press and on television and radio, distribution of clean needles to addicts, increased money for education, and insurance issues.)

## Assault

continued from page 1

door to Entre Nous, at the corner of Spring and High Streets and began verbally harassing them. He said several things about their lesbianism, Nevers said, and they were trying to get to their car and leave when Scott and the woman whose car has been struck came upon them.

They told the man to leave the first pair of women alone, and that is when he turned on them and assaulted Scott. She knocked a glass out of his hand, and then he struck her again with such force that the blow broke her teeth and fractured her jaw. He hit the other woman in the face after that, blackening her eye.

Someone had alerted Nevers to the fact that the women were being assaulted, and when she went out to investigate, the man had gotten into a van (different from that involved in the hit-and-run) that was being driven by another man. Nevers knocked on the driver's side window to ask what was going on, and said before she knew what was happening, the man responsible for the assaults on Scott and the other woman had come around the back of the van and was karate kicking at her. She threw up her arm to protect herself and took a kick on her arm. The man then punched her, bruising her ribs.

By then the Entre Nous customers had pretty much emptied out onto the street, and the man jumped into the van, which sped off into the night. Witnesses were able to identify it to police easily because its side was emblazoned with a local contractor's name and telephone number.

Nevers and Scott went to Mercy Hospital for treatment of their injuries.

The Entre Nous owner said the police response was good, as an officer arrived four minutes after police were called. She said there have been few problems at the bar in the past, so there's been little cause to summon police.

"They know if we call, we need them," she said.

She characterized the officer who investigated the incident as "concerned and cooperative," and said police patrols in the area were stepped-up in the days following the assaults.

Nevers said she intends to file a civil complaint seeking damages from the man who committed the assault, because Scott's

injuries will cost thousands to treat, and there is no guarantee that even if convicted, the man will be made to pay those costs.

"One way or another, he will pay," she said.

Nevers said she and her staff got a lot of support from the community after the assault. Some women affiliated with the Women's Community Project offered to help with security, she said, and others spoke of organizing a protest against violence.

Appropriately enough, the Take Back the Night March, which is dedicated to focusing attention on the violence that women face, took place on September 26.

The incident has prompted Nevers to take additional security measures for her customers. From now on, she said, there will be a person available to walk women to their cars on weekend nights. In addition, canisters of mace have been purchased for all Entre Nous employees and nightsticks and a baseball bat are stationed behind the bar, she said.

"It will never happen again," Nevers said. "I'll guarantee you that."

The Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance has asked that people who have been confronted with violence or harassment because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation write or call the MLGPA to report such incidents.

Anyone who is subjected to verbal harassment, physical assault or other types of homophobic crime, such as vandalism, should write to the MLGPA with information about the incident or incidents. It will be helpful for the complainants to identify themselves, but it's not absolutely necessary. MLGPA will keep the names of the complainants confidential unless someone wants their name and the circumstances made public.

MLGPA's address is P.O. Box 108, Yarmouth, 04096. The phone number to call with reports of violence or harassment is 871-1555.

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continued from page 9

continued from page 7

**Barb:** Is women's music in Europe more new wave?

**Jana:** I don't know what you mean by new wave? What's new wave for you?

**Rosemary:** Mild punk.

**Jana:** Probably yes. I think the trend is definitely in that direction. Also, I don't want to say that the standards are lower, but with new wave you can get up and do it without having had to play for twenty years. You can be a musician for a couple of years and get up and sing what you want to sing. I think that's important. That's what we try to encourage in women. No matter what your level of expertise you should get up there and do it, record something, express it. Don't be afraid. You don't need to be a star. It's part of how we should all be living.

**Rosemary:** I think here (in America) the focus is much more on technical excellence. In England, because of the anarchic approach, there's a reaction to that. Both have their pros and cons. It's amazing to come here and listen to musicians and the standards of musicianship. It's so high it can be really inspiring. Sometimes it's so high it can be a bit soulless. It misses the soul. In England you get the soul. Each has its pitfalls.

**Jana:** I definitely relate to the English way of reacting to structure, because structure can kill you if you don't analyze it. Politics there go quite deep and radical and the analysis can take up too much time. It can stagnate after a while. But I feel the cross-Atlantic exchange could be very rich for both of us. So we try to send some in this direction, and try to encourage you to come visit us.

#### Releases from Ova on Stroppy Cow Records:

1979 "Ova" (cassette)

1982 "Out of Bounds" (album and cassette)

1984 "Ancestral Drum" — Jana's solo work of improvised ritual music (cassette)



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Olympia Snowe and Paul Charette, nor from First District candidates Joe Brennan and Plato Truman. Though Rollin Ives, the Republican hopeful running against Brennan, answered affirmatively to the survey, MLGPA declined to endorse him. As neither Snowe nor Charette support civil rights protection for lesbians and gay men, MLGPA did not issue an endorsement in that race.

Of MLGPA's endorsements in the legislative races Gordon said, "Gay people in the state should take a good look at the recommendations we're making because the vote on the next gay and lesbian rights bill will be tied to who gets elected."

Maine NOW-PAC helped MLGPA identify key House and Senate races (i.e., races in which an anti-rights candidate is running against either a pro-rights or more lobbyable candidate). Gordon said, "There are many key races. If we can't get our friends elected in the Senate, we stand a chance of losing our majority. And we have a chance of increasing our supporters in the House."

"It was very energizing," McCormick said of the endorsement process. "To go through every single race and familiarize ourselves with those names this early was very empowering. We just know more now about the legislative races than we did last year."

McCormick believes the group's endorsements will make a difference in some races. "The number of returns we got indicate that people are seeking our endorsement," she said. "I don't think it's going to hurt anybody, as a vote on the gay rights bill has never hurt anyone. That we've proven."

## 'AIDS Doctor' at MMC

by Fred Berger

Dr. Gerald Friedland, dubbed "The AIDS Doctor" in a *Newsweek* cover story, spoke in Portland September 13 at a Maine Medical Center conference on infectious diseases. Friedland told the audience about his experiences with AIDS at Montefiore Hospital in the North Bronx. Throughout his lecture, Friedland emphasized that because of the location of his hospital he sees a higher proportion of IV drug users and women AIDS patients than is typical in other areas. He addressed some of the particular problems of these groups.

Remarking that someone said "statistics of epidemiology are people with the tears removed," Dr. Friedland cited numbers to show the impact that AIDS is having in New York City. He said that his hospital and most NYC hospitals have at least 25 AIDS patients on the ward at any given time, with some institutions devoting one-third of their medical services to people with AIDS.

He also cited statistics to show how the type of AIDS patient at Montefiore differs from most other hospitals. At Montefiore only 35% of the people with AIDS are gay men, while 50% are IV drug users. Nationally only 17% of PWAS are drug users. While nationally women make up only 6% of the people with AIDS, at Montefiore the rate is 23%.

Dr. Friedland said that his female patients are either IV drug users (nationally 25% of all IV drug users are women) or sexual partners of IV drug users. The majority of these women have pneumocystis pneumonia as their primary diagnosis, rather than Kaposi's Sarcoma. As a result, the prognosis for women with AIDS is poorer because people with KS generally live longer.

Friedland cited particular needs of women with AIDS, including the necessity to plan for custody of the children, many of whom will be infected with the virus, after their mother's death. He said that ironically there exists a special stigma against women with

AIDS because they have contracted a "male disease." He said also that women and IV drug users with AIDS do not have the same support networks that gay men with AIDS do.

One of the more startling parts of Dr. Friedland's lecture was his description of the "shooting galleries" where addicts inject "speedball," a combination of heroin and cocaine, into their veins. In these galleries, usually located in burned out buildings, entrepreneurs rent needles and syringes to a person for \$2.50. The user then leaves the apparatus for the next patron. Within a 24-hour period twenty to twenty-five people will share the same equipment. "One couldn't design a more ideal process for transmission," he said.

Friedland said that the best way to attack the spread of AIDS is to get people off drugs, although there are waiting lists for all drug rehabilitation programs. He recommended that sterile needles be made available to drug addicts, but said that he doubts this can be done because of political realities.

Dr. Friedland concluded his lecture discussing a study he has done on the heterosexual transmission of AIDS. The study of steady, supposedly monogamous, partners of infected people found that only 40% of the partners acquired the HIV virus. From this study he concluded that AIDS is not easily transmitted and that there appeared to be no correlation between particular sexual practices and transmission of the virus. When asked whether similar studies were being done of homosexual couples, Friedland said he did not know of any because it is "very difficult to find homosexual partners where there is no outside contact."

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# Global Gayzette

## BOOK REVIEW

### Soul Snatcher

**SOUL SNATCHER**, by Camarin Grae. Chicago: Blazon Books, Inc., 1985, 216 pp., \$8.95 paper.

by Barbara Leclerc

Sharla Jergens, a lonely, despairing and painfully shy woman from Portland, Oregon flies to Chicago so she can escape from an impending marriage to an insipid man named Andy. Meanwhile, Meredith Landor, an outgoing, confident lesbian-feminist filmmaker from Chicago flies to San Francisco to shoot a film for three months. The only thread connecting these two women is their uncanny physical resemblance. It is so uncanny that Sharla, while traveling the streets of Chicago, gets mistaken for Meredith on different occasions by two of Meredith's friends, the second one a muscular dyke on a bike.

"So, are you on your way home or what?"

Sharla nodded dumbly.

"I'll give you a lift. Hop on."

*Ride on a motorcycle behind this wild woman in a leather jacket who thinks I'm someone else? I couldn't. Sharla had always wanted to ride on a motorcycle. Andy thought they were foolhardy and dangerous. Fuck you, Andy. So did her mother. Fuck both of you. Sharla climbed on and held the slim waist. They zipped through the streets, Sharla's primly waved hair flying in the wind.*

Before long, Sharla takes up residence in Meredith's apartment and though she is fascinated and strangely pleased by her perfect resemblance to this vibrant, successful woman, she is also reminded of her own life-long feelings of anguish and alienation. In an effort to capture Meredith's joy and vitality, Sharla tries to transform herself into Meredith. She cuts her hair, wears Meredith's clothes, reads Meredith's diary and imitates Meredith's subtleties of gesture and speech that are available to her on films Meredith made.

After discovering that Meredith is a lesbian, Sharla plunges into a depression but eventually learns to accept lesbianism as she recalls her own long forgotten feelings of sexual attraction to Greta, an old college friend. When she feels confident that she has mastered her imitation of Meredith, Sharla starts socializing with Meredith's friends and even initiates an affair with Allison, one of Meredith's ex-lovers. Playing the role of Meredith, Sharla, for the first time in her life, knows what it is like to be comfortable with herself and for others to like her. People want to hear her opinions and they respect them. Many women express admiration. Others are sexually attracted to her. Sharla doesn't want to lose the joy of living as Meredith but knows that Meredith will be coming back to Chicago soon.

What does Sharla do? My lips are sealed except to say that the plot is suspensefully convoluted and the ending, cleverly intriguing.

The gay and lesbian community scored a major victory when Massachusetts' Superior Court recently rejected a motion filed by the Department of Social Services (DSS) and Governor Michael Dukakis to dismiss the complaint challenging the foster care regulations which virtually prohibit gay men and lesbians from becoming foster parents.

The suit against the state, filed in February by Donald Babets and David Jean, the gay couple from whom a foster child was removed by DSS, Rev. Kathryn Piccard, an approved foster parent for six years, Catherine Brayden, a divorced mother of two and an approved foster parent, Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, and the National Association of Social Workers, alleges that the DSS regulations violate constitutional guarantees of equal protection, due process of law, rights to privacy and freedom of association, and requests declaratory and injunctive relief.

Though Chief Justice Thomas R. Morse, Jr., in a memorandum dated September 8, ruled that the Governor cannot be a defendant in the suit per previous case law, nor can the National Association of Social Workers be a plaintiff, he issued a strong criticism of DSS's actions.

"Given that the Commonwealth's 'legitimate public purpose' . . . is to 'insure that the children of the Commonwealth are protected . . . it is anomalous that the Commonwealth should concoct a classification so disadvantageous to a class of persons—single parents—who may well be as good as or better at parenting than some married couples," Morse wrote.

He continued, "I find it perplexing that the DSS, as plaintiffs alleged, approved the plaintiffs as foster parents, placed with Babets and Jean children whose 'emotional and physical condition improved dramatically,' and acknowledged that the quality of care given . . . was 'exceptional,' and now comes into court postulating that its preference for married couples is rationally related to a legitimate purpose."

Noting that the standard governing out of home foster placements has been the best interests of the child, and that the legislature's policy is "to assure good substitute parental care," Morse called DSS's distinction between married couples and single persons "wholly arbitrary and capricious and adverse to the needs of children."

In considering whether the DSS regulation "invidiously discriminates against homosexuals," Morse said, "Any exclusion of homosexuals from consideration as foster parents, all things being equal, is blatantly irrational."

\*\*\*

A march on Washington to focus on lesbian/gay and AIDS-related issues is being planned for 1987.

An organizing conference will be held Nov. 14-16 in New York City. A call to action has been issued, and it is hoped that representatives of every lesbian/gay organization in the nation will attend. At the NYC meeting, demands will be established, a date will be set, a structure will be developed, leadership will be chosen and work for the March will be planned.

The call for action outlines the recent

assaults against lesbian and gay people that have come from the Reagan administration, the Justice Department, the Supreme Court and Lyndon LaRouche, among others, and explains the need for a march: "In 1969, the Stonewall Rebellion released the pent-up yearnings that had been stilled through eons of oppression. And today, after all the suffering and all the struggling, we issue this call for a March on Washington as we proclaim to friend and foe alike, FOR LOVE AND FOR LIFE, WE'RE NOT GOING BACK!"

The call has been mailed nationwide to those organizations on the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's mailing list. Any groups that do not receive information packets by Oct. 1 should write to the March on Washington Committee at P.O. Box 1876, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10011.

\*\*\*

There will be a two-day brainstorming/heartsearching meeting at the Women's Encampment for a future of Peace and Justice in upstate New York on Columbus Day weekend, Oct. 11 and 12. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the future of the encampment. The session on Saturday will be from 2 to 7 p.m., and Sunday's meeting will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. According to the newsletter put out by the women at the encampment, the October gathering will be a "regional extended family decision-making meeting." All women committed to feminist non-violence and consensus process are welcome. In a related matter, women are needed to stay the winter at the encampment, which is in Romulus, NY. For more information, write to the group at 5440 Rte. 96, Romulus, NY 14541 or call (607) 869-5825.

\*\*\*

The editors of the lesbian feminist magazine Common Lives, Lesbian Lives have gone to court against the University of Iowa because the school refused to print the magazine's latest issue. The editors say the refusal amounts to prior censorship, because the university's print service refused to print issue #20 because it contained photographs of lesbians having sex.

The magazine's original printer, Iowa City Women's Press, went out of business, and since then, the editors say, they have had problems with printshop censorship.

The magazine's editors are suing for breach of contract.

\*\*\*

Activists in California are gearing up as quickly as they can for the November vote on an initiative proposal to quarantine people with AIDS that is being pushed by the Lyndon LaRouche organization. The campaign against Proposition 64 is proceeding on several fronts. Recently, opponents of the question scored a victory when a Superior Court judge struck from the ballot several phrases which they had called false and misleading. The controversial statements, which were to be in the state ballot pamphlet, said that "AIDS is not hard to get; it is easy to get;" "potential insect and respiratory transmission has been established by numerous studies" and "transmission by 'casual contact' is well-established."

Coalitions of women and minority people have been formed, and they are assisting in the effort to raise money and educate voters. Organizers of the No On LaRouche campaign are stressing that the initiative must be defeated, or it may spawn similar quarantine efforts in other states. At least another \$2 million is needed for the media campaign alone. Contributions can be sent to No On LaRouche, 7985 Santa Monica Blvd. Suite 109-174, Box N, Los Angeles, CA 90046.

\*\*\*

Atlanta City Councilor John Lewis upset State Senator Julian Bond in a close race for the Congressional seat representing Georgia's Fifth District.

Lewis, who was a top aide to Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. during the civil rights campaigns of the 1960s, was backed by the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a political action committee dedicated to supporting candidates committed to lesbian and gay civil rights and federal support in the fight against AIDS.

The election was held in early September, and was a runoff, so Democrats could choose a candidate to advance to the November general election. It was characterized by much publicity about the fact that both Lewis and Bond had been active in the civil rights movement, and had been allied on most issues for many years. Bond long has had a higher public profile, most recently serving as a state senator.

The HRCF contributed \$4,000 to Lewis during the primary and runoff elections. The local lesbian/gay community also worked hard on his behalf.

"This is a major win for the gay and lesbian community," HRCF executive director Vic Basile. "This victory emphasizes our political clout as a community whose support is now a proven commodity, rather than a liability, for candidates throughout the country."

\*\*\*

The Chicago City Council rejected a lesbian/gay rights bill in late July, but the Davis, California council approved such a bill last winter, so it has joined the ranks of communities in the U.S. to have a comprehensive civil rights policy.

The Chicago vote was 18-30, even though it had received the verbal support of 27 of the 50 alderpersons on the council. The bill's defeat was attributed to the intervention of Roman Catholic Cardinal Joseph Bernardin.

The bill would have prohibited discrimination against lesbians and gay men in housing and employment. It first was introduced in 1973, and was voted out of committee six years later. For the past seven years it has remained pending while gay and lesbian activists worked behind the scenes to gather support.

Despite the defeat, some active in the campaign said just getting the issue to a vote was a positive step, because it focused the public's attention, not just that of a small group of elected officials, on questions about civil rights for lesbians and gays.

(Sources for some of the information in this month's Global Gayzette were *Sojourner*, *Gay Community News* and *Bay Windows*.)

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# Reflections on Desert Hearts

by Dale McCormick and Jenny Wriggins

Arriving as it does in the barren middle of Reagan's second term, about the same time as the Meese Commission Report and the Supreme Court's sodomy decision in *Hardwick*, *Desert Hearts* is, if you'll pardon the expression, a real oasis. For here, lit up on the silver screen, is a well-produced, full-length, nationally-distributed film about two women who fall in love, for real. The portrayal of them, and of their relationship, is unabashedly positive and explicit, which is a surprise and delight in these homophobic times. *Desert Hearts* is also a quite good, and very enjoyable, film.

The story takes place in gorgeous countryside outside Reno, Nevada in 1959, on a ranch owned by Frances Parker (Audra Lindley). Women from out-of-state wait there while taking advantage of Nevada's "quickie-divorce law," which requires only six weeks residence in the state. One of our heroines, Vivian Bell (Helen Shaver), an English Lit Professor from Columbia University, stiffly arrives on a hot summer morning. Bell is initially withdrawn and dazed, but becomes charmed by Cay Rivers (Patricia Charbonneau). Cay, the lovely adopted daughter of the ranch owner, works in a casino, knows herself to be a lesbian, and knows that she is crazy about Vivian. The two become friends, then lovers, and the final fate of their relationship remains unknown since Vivian has to go back to NYC and may (or may not) take Cay with her.

So that's the story; your basic, girl-meets-girl, girl falls in love with and pursues girl, and girl-gets-girl plot.

The majority of the film concerns the part before the "girl-gets-girl" stage. The story unfolds in the same manner as many other movies; we find out about how the characters are feeling about one another through their interactions with other people — Cay tells her friend Silver (superbly played by Andra Aker) "I think I've met someone who counts," while Vivian, with no one to really talk to, shows her feelings for Cay by stalking out of the room when Frances tells her that Cay is not worthy of her. Ironically, the film's worst piece of dialogue takes place between Cay and Vivian. Here's a piece of it — Cay: "What do you say when people ask you what happened to your marriage?" Vivian: "To you, I say it drowned in still waters." Cay: "Say no more!" Indeed. Despite this vapid conversation, the growing friendship between them feels real, based more on what isn't said — on shots of them exchanging glances in the casino, on shots of Cay driving around alone through Reno's neon, and of Vivian reflective and alone, while Patsy Cline croons "I'm crazy for loving you."

Because Cay has Silver to confide in, and Vivian has no one, we get a more specific

picture of how Cay is feeling. But then, Cay's feelings are more specific — she wants Vivian. Vivian's feelings are gloriously confused: After a party, over halfway through the film, Cay and Vivian go for a drive to a distant lake; Cay says, "Vivian, I do believe you're loaded." Vivian: "I can't imagine doing this if I wasn't." Cay asks quietly: "What are you doing?" No response. For once in her life, the Professor does not know. And therein lies some of the life of this movie.

Vivian, the controlled, professional woman, has to confront feelings for the first time. And they're not just any feelings, they are particularly dangerous and scary feelings, because they are for a woman. Helen Shaver's portrayal of Vivian's confusion, attraction, and ambivalence throughout the film are some of its strongest moments.

It is a credit to the movie that the relationship does not end simply with Cay opening Vivian up to her feelings and to great sex. For, soon after Cay does this, the tables turn and Vivian confronts Cay with parts of herself that she has been avoiding. Cay is an artist who has been "hiding out" in Reno at her stepmother's, perhaps shaken from getting "kicked out of college for 'unnatural acts'," as a homophobic ranch resident puts it, hiding from her talents and from taking risks. Vivian sees that part of Cay and

**"Deitch has captured the special feelings involved in being in a relationship that isn't condoned by society."**

tenderly but unequivocally urges her to face it head-on. Whether and how she does this is part of the mystery ending of the film.

Many other aspects of the film are worthy of mention. To name several: Cay and Vivian are portrayed in a way which is refreshingly clear of negative stereotypes. Both are highly attractive to men; neither hates men at all; they simply are in love with each other.

Men are portrayed in an interesting way, about which viewers seem to differ. The views seem to range from pathetic to peripheral to positive, depending on who you talk to. One thing is clear: that they are not portrayed as stereotypically macho or aggressive, on the whole. A ranch hand, seeing the trail of women who enter and leave Cay's cabin, shakes his head and says, with envy and admiration, "How you get all that traffic, without any equipment, is beyond me." Cay's boss, who is madly in love with her even though he knows she's gay ("I could look the other way if I had to" he says), corners her in his office, but only for a second and with only a slight suggestion of violence, soon dispensed with. Joe Lorenzo (Dean Butler) is the male sexual lead. He is Silver's fiancée and the object of her passionate desire. He is the only man in the film who is clearly sexually ac-

tive. Far from the type you'd find in a beer ad, he is small, nearing forty, unthreatened by Silver's intimate friendship with Cay, and wise. His masculinity survives serving drinks to Cay and Silver, who are relaxing in the bathtub together. "You look like two desserts," he says. Silver admits to being so happy that she's afraid it will all end. But Joe reassures her. "Don't I always get you through the good times?"

The film is based on *Desert of the Heart*, a great book by one of the lesbian and gay community's best writers, Jane Rule. Both the film and the book stand alone as artistic achievements, very different and yet equally effective. Jane Rule has been writing woman-identified fiction since the fifties, when she was published in "The Ladder," the magazine of the Daughters of Bilitis, which along with the Mattachine Society, were some of the only pre-Stonewall gay and lesbian organizations in the U.S.A.

It took Donna Deitch, the film's Producer and Director, seven years to raise the one and a half million dollars it took to make *Desert Hearts*. As of Wednesday August 27, the film had grossed \$1,233,384. It earned \$65,000 that week (down from \$86,595 for the previous week), was ranked thirtieth among the top fifty films, and had spent thirty weeks on the chart compiled by "Variety" magazine. Jane Rule, speaking to an au-

dience in San Francisco, emphasized how important it is that *Desert Hearts* make money to encourage more Hollywood distribution of lesbian and gay films. Given the "Variety" figures, the film is likely to top its one and a half million dollar goal.

Maine has certainly done its part. Railroad Square Cinema (Waterville) gave *Desert Hearts* its Maine premier and found it to be the top grossing movie of the summer. Railroad Square sent packets of stamped *Desert Hearts* promotional post cards to gay organizations, bookstores, and individuals. The folks at Railroad Square and at Goldwin, the national distributor, clearly understood the power of the gay grapevine.

*Desert Hearts* is a very well-crafted movie. Each scene that the camera frames is perfectly balanced and beautifully designed. Two examples come to mind: Vivian and Frances' late night talk with an old TV movie in the background. Later on Cay and Vivian snuggle in Vivian's motel room while looking out at the neon strip of Reno. The neon lights are framed by the window, which is nicely balanced by the women's bodies sitting spoon fashion.

Music is often used as a connector of visual images and as a transition between scenes. The music will be heard before a

scene begins and leads us into it. When Cay drives Silver up to the chapel for her wedding, the triumphant fanfare to Mendelssohn's wedding march begins while Silver is still in the car. After hesitating a moment, Silver gets out and slams the car door right on the downbeat as the full orchestra begins to play. This kind of attention to detail is typical in this well-edited film.

Mention should be made of the fine performance of Audra Lindley as the ranch owner Frances Parker, a complex, sad and important character who only space prevents us from discussing in more detail. The supporting performances of Joe, Silver, Walter (Cay's brother, played by Alex McArthur), and the rest of the cast are consistently strong and do justice to the frequently witty script.

Like Alfred Hitchcock, Donna Deitch fleetingly puts herself into the movie. She appears in the last casino scene as a smokey slot machine player who says to Vivian in a remark that epitomizes the gambling motif of the film, "You don't play, you don't win."

*Desert Hearts* is an extremely insightful portrait of a lesbian relationship. Deitch has captured the special feelings involved in being in a relationship that isn't condoned by society. Intimate moments must be snatched at unlikely times — even in public. At Joe and Silver's engagement party, Cay and Vivian exchange intimate glances across a table filled with people who are unaware of their communication. The camera has a lover's eye. It lovingly notices, as Cay does, the special way Vivian holds her glass, her cigarette. Later, unable to dance with each other, they share the bittersweet moment while in another's arms.

I have seen *Desert Hearts* three times and each time I viewed the love scene differently. The first time I was nervous. My internalized homophobia had me wondering what other people were thinking. When I saw it most recently, it seemed tender, erotic and brilliantly done. By all accounts this is one of the longest, sexiest love scenes in film history. Yet there are no nervous giggles, because Deitch initially disarms the audience with laughter. We laugh first at Cay's surprise disrobing, then at Vivian's nervous remark after putting the Do Not Disturb sign out, "Well, that part went smoothly."

Then we are ready to open ourselves to the tender emotions of the lovemaking. And we do...

*Desert Hearts* has its weak spots: The dialogue is sappy at moments, and the friendship between Vivian and Cay's brother Walter does not quite hang together, as if some critical footage was edited out.

Still, these are minor criticisms of this film, which is in many ways a remarkable achievement. Bravo.

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## McCormick Honored by HRCF



MLGPA President Dale McCormick

By Brenda Buchanan

Dale McCormick, president of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, has been chosen as an honorary co-chairperson for the annual Human Rights Campaign Fund dinner, to be held Oct. 18 in Boston.

McCormick and Massachusetts Congressional Representative Barney Frank will share the duty of introducing speakers and honorees at the gala, which is for the purpose of recognizing individuals who have contributed to efforts to secure lesbian/gay civil rights.

The featured speakers will be Harvard Law School professor Laurence Tribe, a constitutional scholar who argued the Georgia sodomy case in front of the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of defendant Michael Hardwick, and Ellie Smeal, president of the National Organization for Women.

Honorees this year will be a number of people who, through their work in the

media, have contributed to greater public understanding of lesbians and gay men and issues that affect our lives. To be recognized are Boston television reporters Sarah Ann Shaw and Jeanne Blake; Beth Winship, who writes a teenage advice column called "Ask Beth;" Ben Lipson, who writes a column about insurance issues for the *Boston Globe*; *Globe* feature writer Kay Longcope; Neil Miller, former editor of *Gay Community News* who now writes for the *Boston Phoenix* and Chris Guilfooy, a former *GCN* writer who now writes for *Bay Windows* and the *South End News*.

Tim McFeeley of the HRCF said McCormick was chosen to be an honorary co-chair because "she's done good work." He said the organization wants to emphasize that it is not restricted to the Boston area, so honoring someone from Maine may serve to underline the "broader, New England aspect of the dinner."

McFeeley said Frank was chosen because he has been "an articulate spokesperson for lesbian and gay civil rights for many years."

The HRCF is a national political action committee that supports candidates for public office who support lesbian/gay civil rights. Recently it formed a separate arm to give money to candidates who back AIDS funding and services.

Tickets for the dinner are \$150 per person. The proceeds from the dinner will go to the HRCF and to Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, a New England-wide lesbian/gay legal defense organization, and Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services, which serves the Boston area.

The dinner will be at the Park Plaza Hotel in Park Square. For tickets, write to HRCF New England Dinner, 264 Beacon St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.

## Artists Create 'Visual Aid'

by Fred Berger

A group of Maine "artists and art lovers" motivated by personal experience with AIDS has joined together to create Visual Aid, an art auction fundraiser. To be held Saturday, November 22 in the atrium of Portland's One City Center, the event is projected to raise over \$20,000 for AIDS research and for direct assistance to people with AIDS in Maine.

Chairperson Jane Burke, a graduate of the Portland School of Art who lives in Augusta, came up with the auction idea after talking with a friend in St. Louis who was doing a piece of art for an AIDS benefit auction there. "I thought I'd like to do something like that. I'd like to do a sculpture dedicated to AIDS victims and have it auctioned off," Jane explains. "Then I thought about where it could be auctioned off. We could have an auction."

Jane enlisted the help of friends and formed a steering committee consisting of F.R. Vance, Kim Burch, John Whitman, and Stephen Gorman of Portland and Paula Ragsdale of Boothbay Harbor. The committee sent letters to artists seeking donations and to businesses to assist in supporting the auction. "It's wonderful that the professional community has responded the way they have," says Steve Gorman. The management of One City Center is donating

use of the atrium space and auctioneer Frank Allen of the F.O. Bailey Company is donating his services. Several galleries, particularly Barridoff Gallery, have also offered assistance.

Committee members believe that this is the first AIDS fundraiser to reach beyond the gay community for support. "We didn't want this to be a cliquey thing or an all gay thing. We didn't want anything political. We just wanted to emphasize art," Jane Burke says.

The artists represented will all either be Maine residents or have strong connections to Maine. Organizers are aiming for representation by 150 artists who will contribute one piece each. The type of work will include painting, prints, sculpture, photography, and professional crafts.

Organizers emphasize that they want a large portion of the funds raised to go directly to assistance for people in Maine who have AIDS. All the committee members have had friends with AIDS — the three people interviewed for this article had just returned from a friend's funeral — and are aware of the needs people with AIDS have.

Visual Aid is seeking volunteers to help with the auction as well as financial support for the costs of the event. The committee can be reached at P.O. Box 4340, Station A, Portland, Maine 04101 or at 623-5274 (Augusta) or 775-2608 (Portland).

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